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1961
ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES

MARCH 1961

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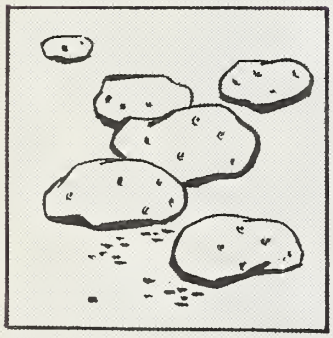
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

SUMMER POTATOES

FALL POTATOES



Agricultural Marketing Service AMG-20
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Washington, D.C.

1961 POTATO ACREAGE GUIDES
SUMMER AND FALL CROPS AND SUMMARY

Season and State	1961 acreage guide	1961 guide as percentage change from 1960 planted
	Acres	Percent
Early Summer:		
Missouri	8,000	0
Kansas	2,400	0
Delaware	10,750	-2
Maryland	2,600	0
Virginia:		
Eastern Shore	21,600	-6
Norfolk	1,600	0
Other	6,500	0
Total Virginia	29,700	-5
North Carolina	8,400	0
Georgia	2,500	0
Kentucky	13,300	0
Tennessee	12,000	0
Texas	10,950	-5
California	9,600	0
Total E. Summer	110,200	-2
Late Summer:		
Massachusetts	2,200	0
Rhode Island	1,400	0
New York, L. I.	11,600	0
New Jersey	17,000	0
Pennsylvania	4,100	0
Ohio	6,400	0
Indiana	3,400	0
Illinois	1,800	0
Michigan	7,100	0
Wisconsin	20,000	0
Minnesota	4,700	0
Nebraska	4,700	0
Maryland	2,100	0
Virginia	4,200	0
West Virginia	11,000	0
North Carolina	3,200	0
Idaho	10,500	0
Colorado	12,000	0
New Mexico	2,500	0
Washington	22,000	0
Oregon	13,000	0
California	9,200	0
Total L. Summer	174,100	0

Season and State	1961 acreage guide	1961 guide as percentage change from 1960 planted
	Acres	Percent
Fall:		
Maine	135,350	- 9
New Hampshire	1,900	0
Vermont	1,900	0
Massachusetts	4,900	- 2
Rhode Island	3,200	0
Connecticut	6,850	- 2
New York, L. I.	33,400	0
New York, Upstate	35,350	- 2
Pennsylvania	44,900	0
8 Eastern-Fall	267,750	- 5
Ohio	13,500	0
Indiana	4,900	0
Michigan	42,500	0
Wisconsin	31,900	- 3
Minnesota	92,700	-10
Iowa	5,500	0
North Dakota	103,100	- 9
South Dakota	7,600	0
Nebraska	12,800	0
9 Central-Fall	314,500	- 6
Montana	9,100	- 3
Idaho	212,650	- 6
Wyoming	4,600	0
Colorado	45,300	0
Utah	9,000	0
Nevada	1,000	0
Washington	15,000	0
Oregon	22,000	0
California	17,100	- 6
9 Western-Fall	335,750	- 4
Total Fall	918,000	- 5
Total Winter	21,600	+ 2
Total Spring	172,550	- 5
Total Summer	284,300	- 1
Total Fall	918,000	- 5
U. S.	1,396,450	- 4

F O R E W O R D

The acreage-marketing guides program for potatoes is designed to assist growers in balancing the supply with market requirements. The objective of the program is to provide the best possible estimates of acreages required to produce the quantity of potatoes necessary to satisfy market needs anticipated for the coming season.

On the basis of the latest and best available information, specific recommendations are developed for each state and area. Recognition is given to trends in recent years and for long time periods. Also, any abnormalities of preceding seasons are considered carefully. However, the recommendations are based upon the assumption that average conditions will prevail in the following season. The acreage recommendation is presented in terms of a percentage change from the acreage of the preceding year, so that each individual grower can apply this percentage-change recommendation to his own operation. The recommendations are reviewed before publication by representatives of various agencies of the Department of Agriculture.

The grower is provided with the Department's recommendation and also with the latest information upon which the recommendation is based. The information is presented to the grower in sufficient time for him to consider the facts as he develops his plans for the forthcoming season. The fundamental concept behind the guide program is that, given the best information possible, the grower will make intelligent decisions for his and the industry's best interest. Compliance with the guides on the part of growers is voluntary. When growers have kept acreage within the levels recommended by the Department, few marketing difficulties have been encountered.

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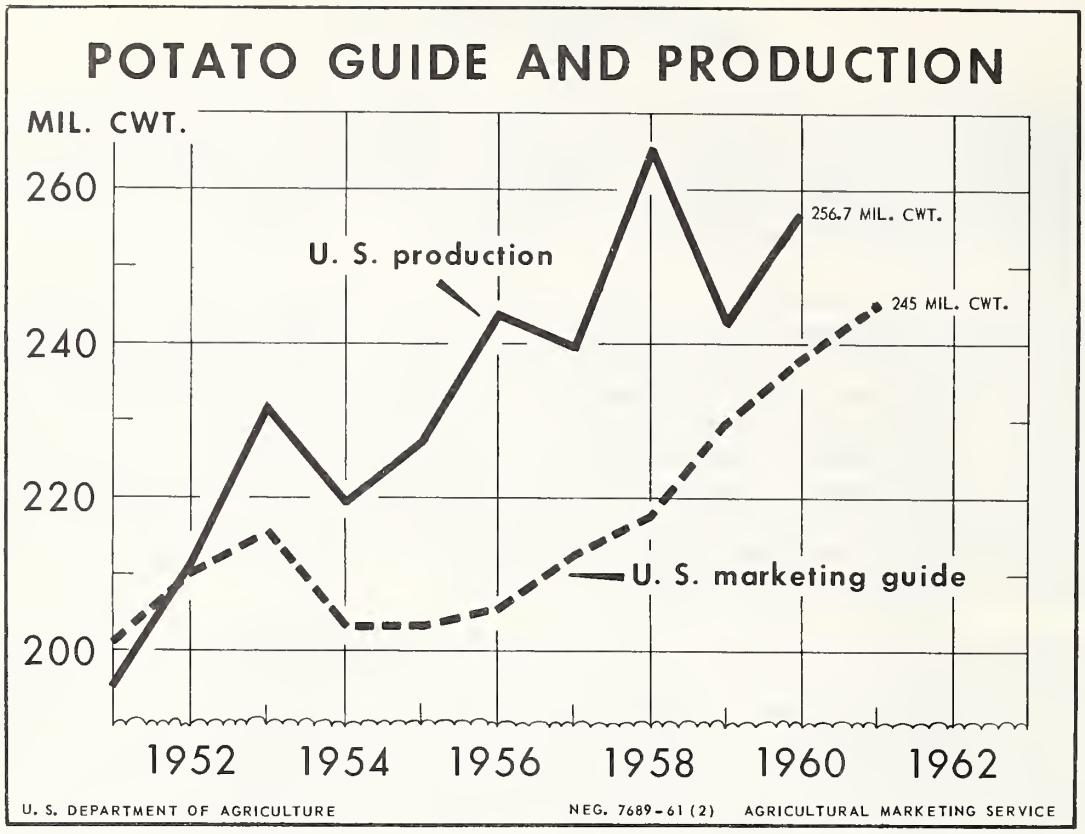
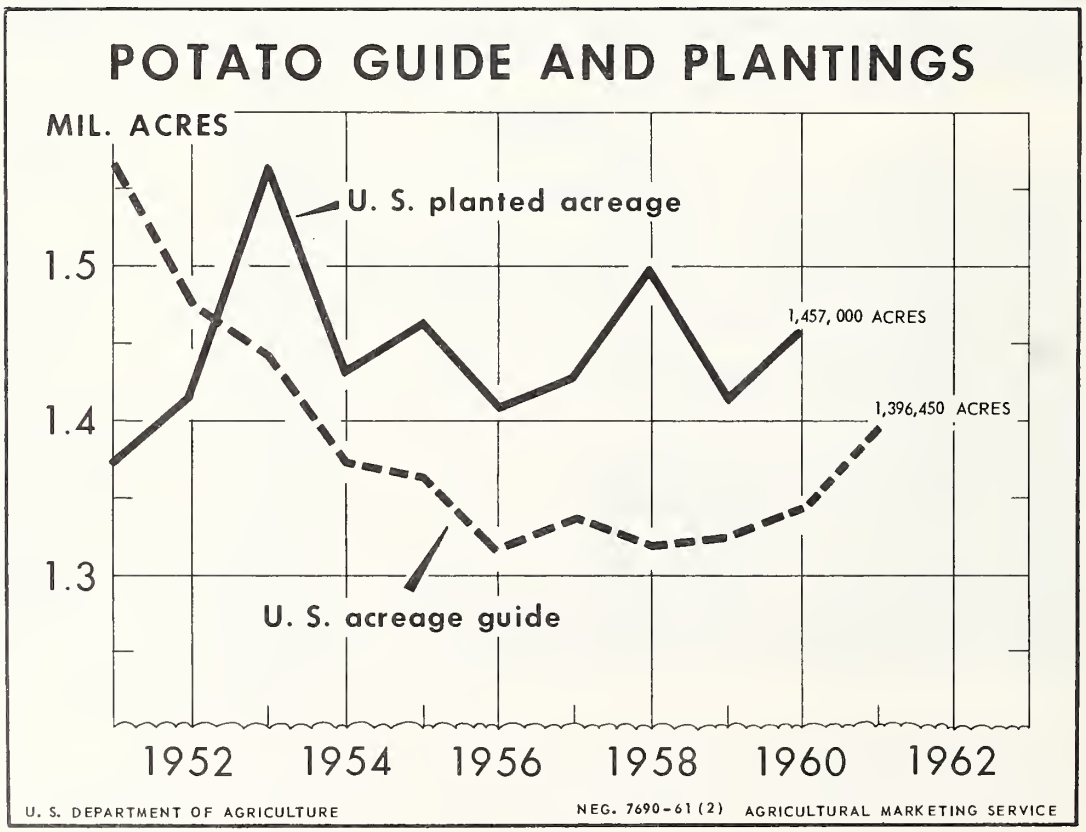

POTATO GUIDE AND PRODUCTION
MIL. CWT.
260
240
220
200
U. S. production
256.7 MIL. CWT.
245 MIL. CWT.
U. S. marketing guide
1952
1954
1956
1958
1960
1962
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 7689-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


POTATO GUIDE AND PLANTINGS
MIL. ACRES
1.5
1.4
1.3
U. S. planted acreage
1,457,000 ACRES
1,396,450 ACRES
U. S. acreage guide
1952
1954
1956
1958
1960
1962
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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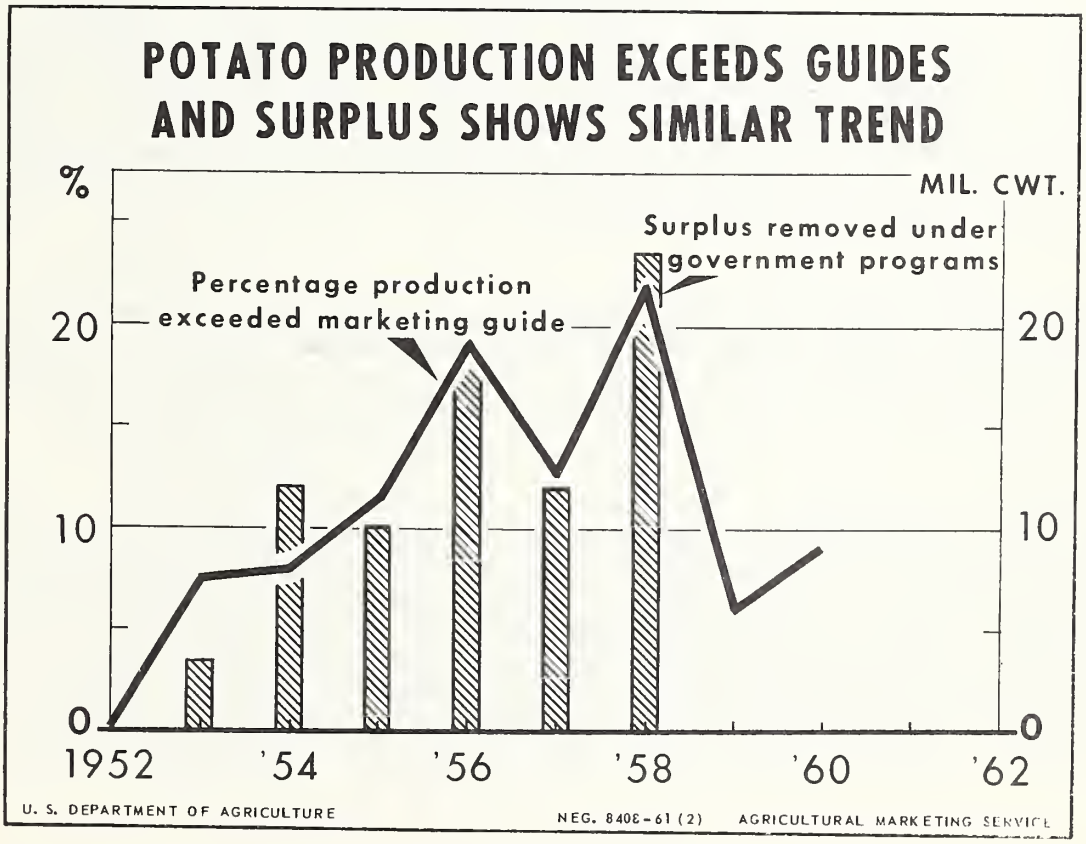
How Many Potatoes Should Be Produced?

Potato growers face this question every year--and their profits often depend on the answer. The potato acreage-marketing guides are put out by the USDA to help growers take the "guesswork" out of planning their production. The guides are more what the market says than what USDA says.

The charts on these pages show that in past years potato acreage and production held persistently above guide recommendations. The potato market continued to signal "too many potatoes." In 1958, for example, production exceeded needs by more than 23 million hundredweight.

Less than a half of one percent of the country's cropland is planted to potatoes. But current productive capacity is such that with average weather, increases in output may continue to press on market outlets in the 1960's. Good prices and stable markets for potatoes are likely only if growers match production to market needs. In the 1961 marketing year, these needs can be supplied from a crop of 245 million hundredweight.



1961 ACREAGE-MARKETING GUIDES
Summer Potatoes - Fall Potatoes

I. SUMMARY OF ADJUSTMENTS

The primary purpose of acreage-marketing guides is to bring about a needed percentage change in planted acreage from that of the preceding year so that the resulting supply will be in line with market requirements. Each grower almost certainly knows the acreage of potatoes planted on his farm in 1960. Therefore, he should adjust his own acreage in accordance with the individual state guide. For example, where it is recommended that the state's 1961 potato acreage be decreased 5 percent from the acreage planted in 1960, all potato growers in the state should decrease their acreage by 5 percent. The recommended acreage adjustments necessarily assume normal weather, usual planting and harvesting schedules, and normal marketing patterns for potatoes. The recommendations also assume that average yields will be obtained. With these conditions, production from the guide acreages would provide all the potatoes the markets need, but not more than they can use.

II. DEMAND FOR POTATOES IN THE 1961 MARKETING YEAR

Prices received by growers for potatoes in the 1961 marketing year will depend largely upon the volume and pattern of marketings. While a given quantity of potatoes will bring better prices if consumer incomes are high, changes in potato supply have much more influence on potato prices than do changes in incomes. However, general economic conditions and consumer demand are also important. Economic activity in the last half of 1960 slackened from the record high level attained in the spring of 1960. At the year's end, there was a rough balance of the forces making for economic expansion and those for decline. This balance may persist for some months but as the year progresses there should be some renewal of expansion.

Largely responsible for the decline in the economy were developments in the private investment sector. Inventories were accumulated at a rapid rate in the first half of 1960, reflecting partly a rebuilding of stocks of steel and steel products depleted during the 1959 steel strike. However, the rate of build-up reflected an excessive rate of accumulation in relation to final demand, and business reduced its demand for goods in order to work down inventories.

Complementing the inventory changeover in 1960 was a slowdown in construction. Outlays for residential construction have trended downward since early 1959, substantially due to a tight mortgage credit situation. Further reductions in 1960 were relatively small but expenditures at year-end were still below a year earlier. With investment in inventories and construction lagging, the flow of income to consumers tapered off as weakness in these sectors was reflected in declines in industrial production and the rate of employment. Nevertheless, personal income in the last quarter of 1960 was record high.

As 1961 progresses, prospective increases in Government expenditures, consumer buying and residential construction should more than counterbalance some decline in business investment in new plant and equipment.

In the Government sector, a significant step-up is in prospect for outlays for national defense. Expenditures by State and local governments will rise because of higher construction outlays for highways and other facilities and increased compensation for employees.

Outlays for new private construction should rise from the 1960 level as purchase terms have been made easier and mortgage funds have become more readily available. Current high vacancy rates, however, will tend to hold down somewhat new starts of single and multi-units. Consumer expenditures for soft goods and services should increase, particularly for food. The growth in population of about 3 million persons a year provides a tremendous boost to requirements for nondurable goods. The outlook for durable goods is not altogether bright. But with the current savings rate unusually high, the pause in consumer buying is likely to give way to enlarged spending.

The outlook for business investment in new plant and equipment is less optimistic, but the expected pickup in consumer expenditures should start being reflected in producers' investment decisions later in 1961.

III. PRODUCTION AND MARKETING MATERIALS AND FACILITIES

Production Materials: Farm machinery, trucks, repair parts and fuels should continue in plentiful supply. Supplies of fertilizer will be adequate. However, the need for the variety of materials demanded in an industry growing in complexity may create local shortages of specialized forms. Ample supplies of established kinds of insecticides, fungicides, and weed killers will be available. Newer materials, often developed for special purposes, may be in limited supply.

Indications are that the supply of all types of containers and protective wrapping materials for harvesting, transporting, and marketing the 1961 potato crop will be adequate. There is ample inventory and production capacity in the container industries to meet all requirements.

Manpower: Farm manpower in 1961 will be influenced by these characteristics: (1) an adequate over-all supply; (2) mechanization developments will increase in more crops, either on an experimental or operational basis, which in turn will decrease worker needs and alter the migratory farm worker pattern; (3) gradually increasing wage rates of farm workers; (4) demands from a variety of sources to improve the working and living conditions of farm workers; and (5) an intensified effort of the State Employment Services to maximize the use of available domestic farm workers. Qualified year-round farm workers continue in short supply in most states.

IV. SURPLUS REMOVAL

It is anticipated that there will be no diversion operations for the 1961 potato crop. Any Departmental assistance to potato producers in any state or area will be conditioned upon strict compliance with the acreage guide. However, compliance with the guide does not commit the Department to provide diversion assistance. By providing growers with acreage-marketing guide information, the Department expects that potato acreage can be adjusted so as to bring supplies in balance with market needs and avoid marketing difficulties.

Before planting time, growers and processors should take measures to evaluate carefully their potential outlets. Experience has demonstrated that potato producing areas which have available or have taken steps to provide local outlets for excess supplies, consisting of culls and other low-grade potatoes assure themselves of a valuable price stabilizer. Growers and others associated with the marketing of potatoes should develop and use local outlets for low-grade potatoes to the maximum extent. The Department stands ready to provide guidance and suggestions for such endeavors.

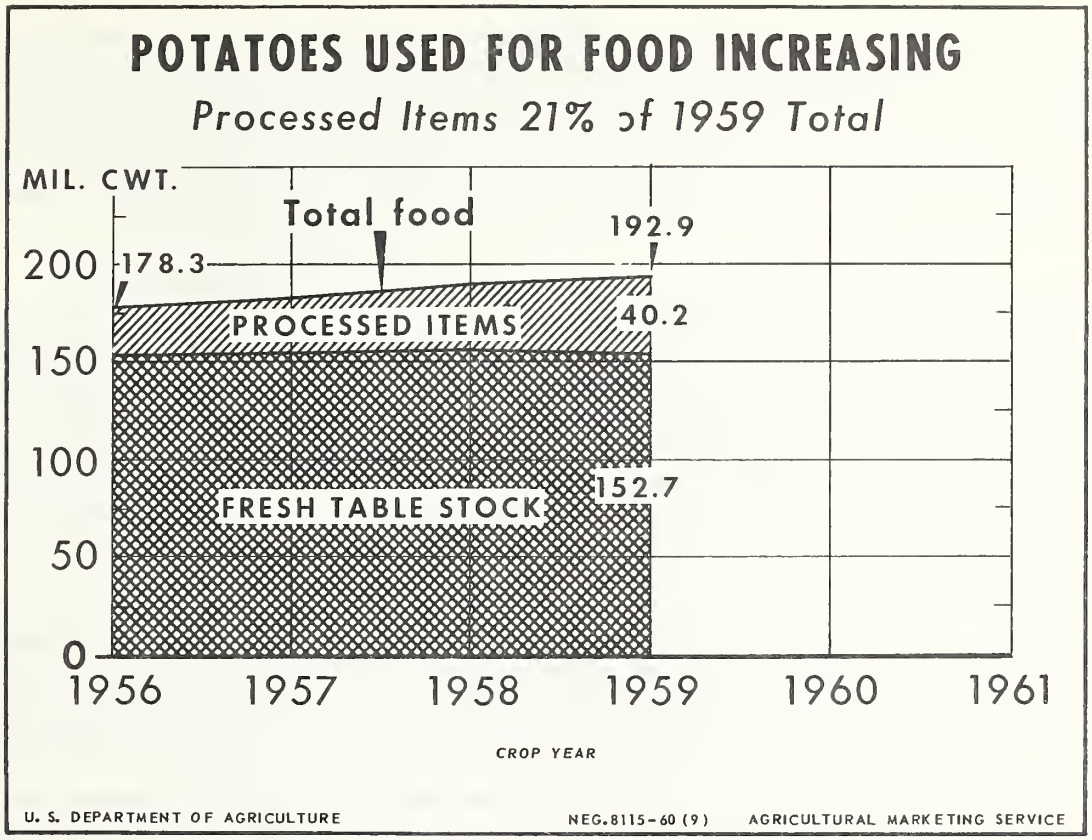
V. 1961 POTATO MARKETING GUIDE

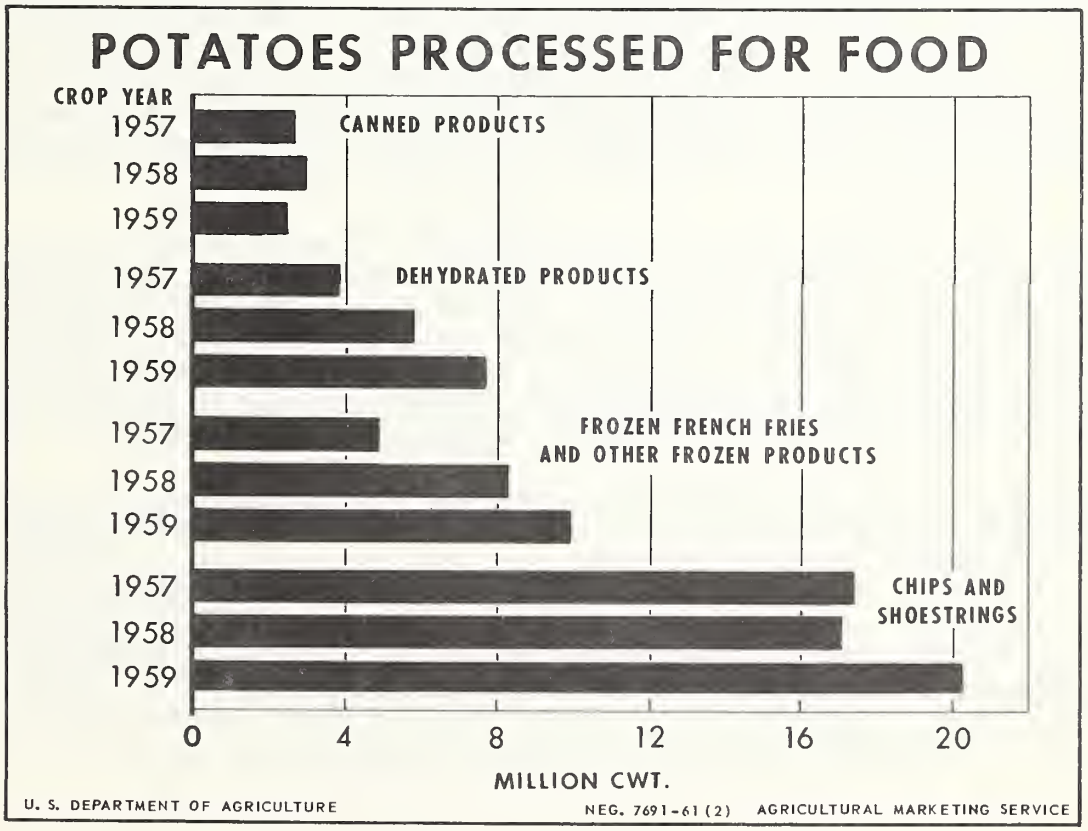
A national potato marketing guide of 245 million hundredweight is recommended for the 1961 marketing year. The 1961 guide is 5 percent less than the 1960 production of 256.7 million hundredweight, but 3 percent more than the 1959 marketing guide of 238 million hundredweight. The national marketing guide was based on the total use of potatoes in the various outlets in recent crop years; most of the annual supply has been and will be used for food and seed. Levels and trends in supplies used for food, seed, and the other established outlets were carried forward to establish potato needs for the 1961 marketing year. The use of a 245 million hundredweight crop would be about as follows:

Utilization	Million cwt.
Food, fresh and processed	196.8
Exports in excess of imports	1.0
Seed for 1962 plantings	21.0
Sold for starch, livestock feed and on-farm shrinkage, waste and loss	26.2
Marketing guide	245.0

Food Use: The quantities of potatoes used for food trended upward in the 1950's and the upward trend is likely to continue through the 1960 and 1961 marketing years. Growth in population is boosting total consumption. In 1961, food needs will approximate 197 million hundredweight. This would be a 19-million-hundredweight-gain in food since 1956.

Packs of fresh potatoes will provide the bulk of food needs in 1961. However, processed food potatoes are expected to account for an increasing proportion of total potatoes used for food; the fresh or table stock proportion will decline. Processed products, such as chips and shoestrings, frozen French


POTATOES USED FOR FOOD INCREASING
Processed Items 21% of 1959 Total
MIL. CWT.
Total food
178.3
192.9
PROCESSED ITEMS
40.2
FRESH TABLE STOCK
152.7
200
150
100
50
0
1956
1957
1958
1959
1960
1961
CROP YEAR
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG.8115-60 (9)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


POTATOES PROCESSED FOR FOOD
CROP YEAR
1957
1958
1959
CANNED PRODUCTS
DEHYDRATED PRODUCTS
FROZEN FRENCH FRIES
AND OTHER FROZEN PRODUCTS
CHIPS AND
SHOESTRINGS
0
4
8
12
16
20
MILLION CWT.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 7691-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

fried and dehydrated preparations, accounted for 21 percent of potato food use in 1959 compared with 14 percent in 1956. Half of the 1959 processed production consisted of chips and shoestrings. Manufacturing capacity for processed products increased sharply in 1960. As a result, supplies of processed products are increasing. Current supplies of some processed items are materially higher than a year ago. In the 1961 marketing year, processed food potatoes may provide more than a fourth of potato food needs.

Civilian per capita consumption of potatoes in the 1961 marketing year is not expected to vary materially from the levels of the past two years. In calendar years 1959 and 1960, per capita consumption (farm weight basis) approximated 106.5 and 108.8 pounds, respectively. The recent peak in consumption was 109.5 pounds in 1957. Consumption declined to 103.2 pounds in 1958. During the past decade, per capita consumption showed no definite trend. An uptrend in per capita consumption of potatoes is unlikely because supplies of most foods are expected to continue at ample levels. Also, new products coming into food markets will compete with fresh and processed potatoes for consumers' dollars.

Foreign Trade: This country usually exports more potatoes than it imports. Most of our trade takes place with Canada with both seed and tablestock moving to and from each country. Mexico and Venezula also buy significant quantities from time to time as did Cuba until recently. Because of the political situation in Cuba, U. S. exports to Cuba are down sharply. Up to 2 percent of our supplies are exported; imports add about one percent to domestic supplies. In the quota year ending September 30, 1960, exports amounted to 3.9 million hundredweight. Imports, all of which originated in Canada, amounted to .6 million hundredweight, resulting in a net export of 3.3 million hundredweight. In the 1958-59 quota year, net exports were 2.2 million hundredweight. Because of a larger 1960 crop in Canada and the political situation in Cuba, exports this fall and winter have been nominal. Few potatoes have been imported from Canada.

Seed Use: The 1961 marketing guide includes 21 million hundredweight of potatoes for seeding 1962 acreages. This quantity, applied at the rate of 15 hundredweight per acre, would seed 1.4 million acres. The 1960 production of certified seed potatoes is estimated at 35.1 million hundredweight, 8 percent more than the 1959 total of 32.6 million. Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota and Idaho, in that order, led in production. Certifying associations reported seed for 64 varieties. Katahdin was the leading certified variety.

Residual Use: Food, seed, and exports represent the primary uses of potatoes. Starch and livestock feed sales, as well as on-farm feed, shrinkage, waste and loss represent so-called residual uses. Residual quantities vary with the size of the crop. A residual of almost 56 million hundredweight was reported for the large 1958 crop. The residual declined to 29 million hundredweight in 1959. If 1961 potato production is held to the guide level of 245 million hundredweight, residual uses would be at minimum levels.

The 1961 potato marketing guide is 7 million hundredweight more than the 1960

guide. The increase in the guide from a year earlier covers the anticipated gain in food marketings because of a growing population. Also, the increase will permit improvement in the quality of packs for fresh market. With more than half of the annual crop (including 70 percent of the fall crop) subject to marketing order regulations, growers should be expected to grade more closely so as to tailor fresh packs more in line with consumer preferences.

VI. SEASONAL AND STATE GUIDES

The national marketing guide was allocated initially to the seasonal crops and to states within the seasonal groups on the basis of the 1957-60 average production. Guide allocations were evaluated in relation to production and disposition levels and trends, and to variations in prices received by farmers. State and area acreage guides were derived by dividing the respective marketing guides by an average yield per planted acre. Potato acreage guides for some summer and fall states were adjusted, so that the respective acreage guides recommended are at least 90 percent of the acreage planted in 1960 but were no more than the 1960 acreage (100 percent limitation). As the potato acreage guides are derived from production and yield averages, they tend to lag behind trends. By limiting suggested cuts in acreage to 10 percent, recognition was given to states where acreage trends have been upward and, conversely, the no increase or 100 percent limitation in acreage compared with the preceding year gave recognition to downward trends in acreage.

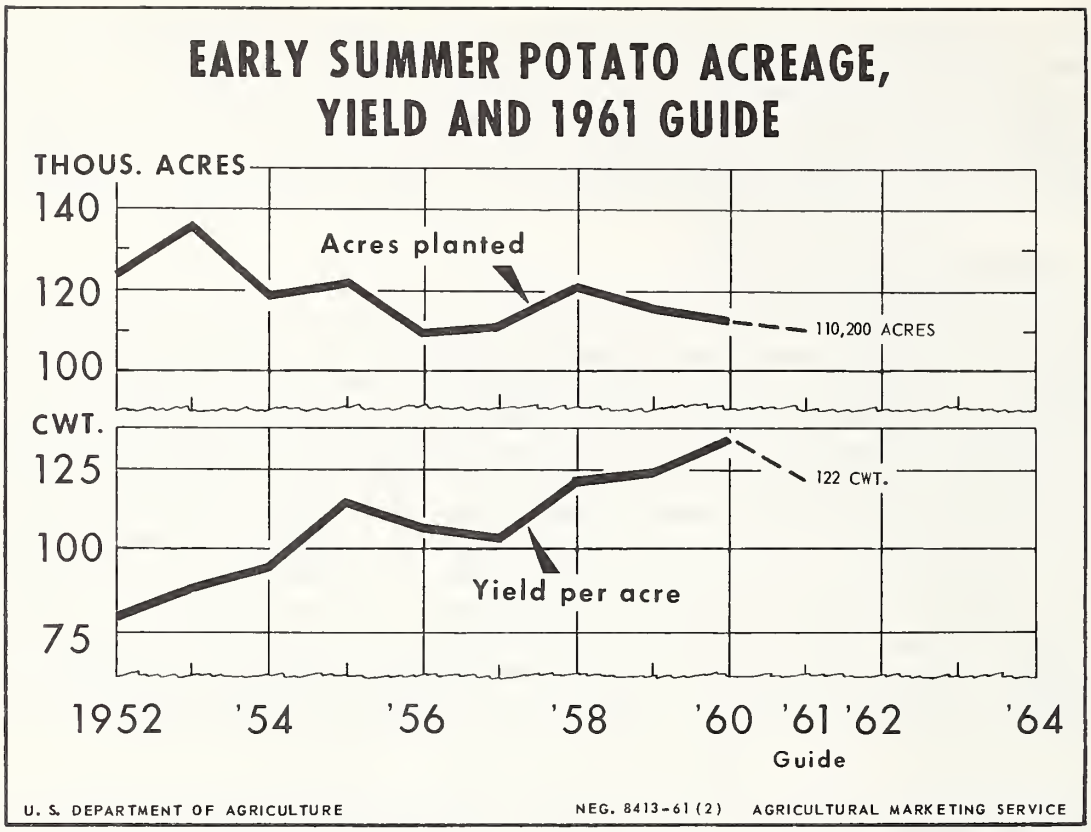
The 1961 seasonal potato guides compared with acreage and production in 1960 are listed below:

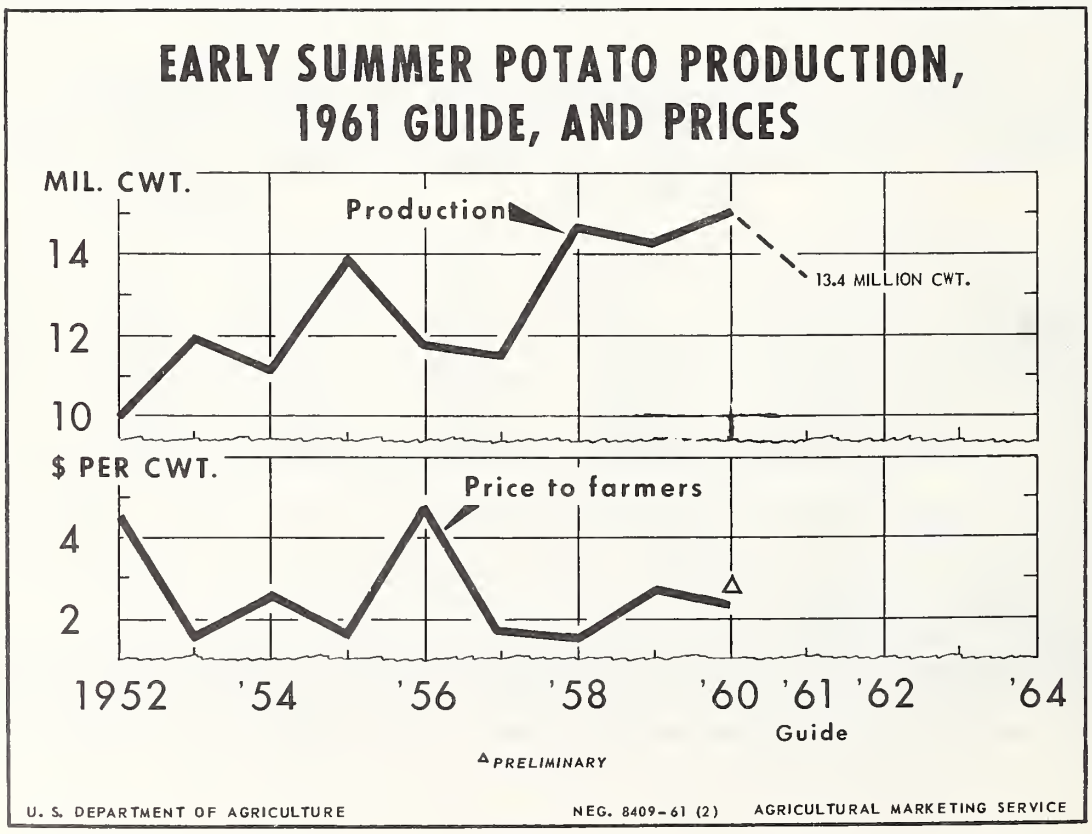
Crop Season	Planted Acreage			Production		
	1960	Guide 1961	1/Percent	1960	Guide 1961	1/ Percent
	1,000 acres			Million cwt.		
Winter	21.1	21.6	102	3.3	3.4	103
Early Spring	28.5	27.8	98	3.5	3.7	106
Late Spring	152.4	144.8	95	27.4	25.0	91
Early Summer	112.3	110.2	98	15.0	13.4	89
Late Summer	174.1	174.1	100	33.6	32.3	96
Fall	968.6	918.0	95	173.8	167.2	96
U. S.	1,457.0	1,396.5	96	256.7	245.0	95

1/ Percent 1961 guide is of 1960.

VII. SEASONAL SUMMARY:

Early Summer Crop: Most of the early summer crop is harvested and marketed between July 1 and August 15. Because of a relatively short marketing season, early summer production areas should produce only moderate-size crops to obtain


EARLY SUMMER POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD AND 1961 GUIDE
THOUS. ACRES
140
120
100
Acres planted
110,200 ACRES
CWT.
125
100
75
122 CWT.
Yield per acre
1952
'54
'56
'58
'60
'61
'62
'64
Guide
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8413-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


EARLY SUMMER POTATO PRODUCTION, 1961 GUIDE, AND PRICES
MIL. CWT.
14
12
10
Production
13.4 MILLION CWT.
$ PER CWT.
4
2
Price to farmers
1952
'54
'56
'58
'60
'61
'62
'64
Guide
△PRELIMINARY
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8409-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

better than "break-even" prices. In past years, overlapping late spring supplies reduced market outlet for early summer supplies and depressed prices received. Earlier-than-usual late summer harvests also has checked demand for early summer supplies. The bulk of early summer potatoes moves to table-stock markets. In past years, up to a fifth of the seasonal crop was used for food on farms where grown.

The 1960 production was a record and 4 percent above 1959. Most of the increase was in Virginia where a record yield per acre was harvested. Production in all other early summer states did not vary materially from the levels of a year earlier. Virginia produced 29 percent of the 1960 crop, California, 19 percent; Delaware, 15 percent; and Texas, 13 percent.

The North Carolina spring crop harvest was late and coincided with harvest in Virginia. Marketings from both states reached volume in late June and continued heavy through most of July. By the third week in July supplies also were available in Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Long Island. As a result, supplies in eastern terminals bunched. Shipments from California continued in volume throughout July; only limited supplies were available in other western areas.

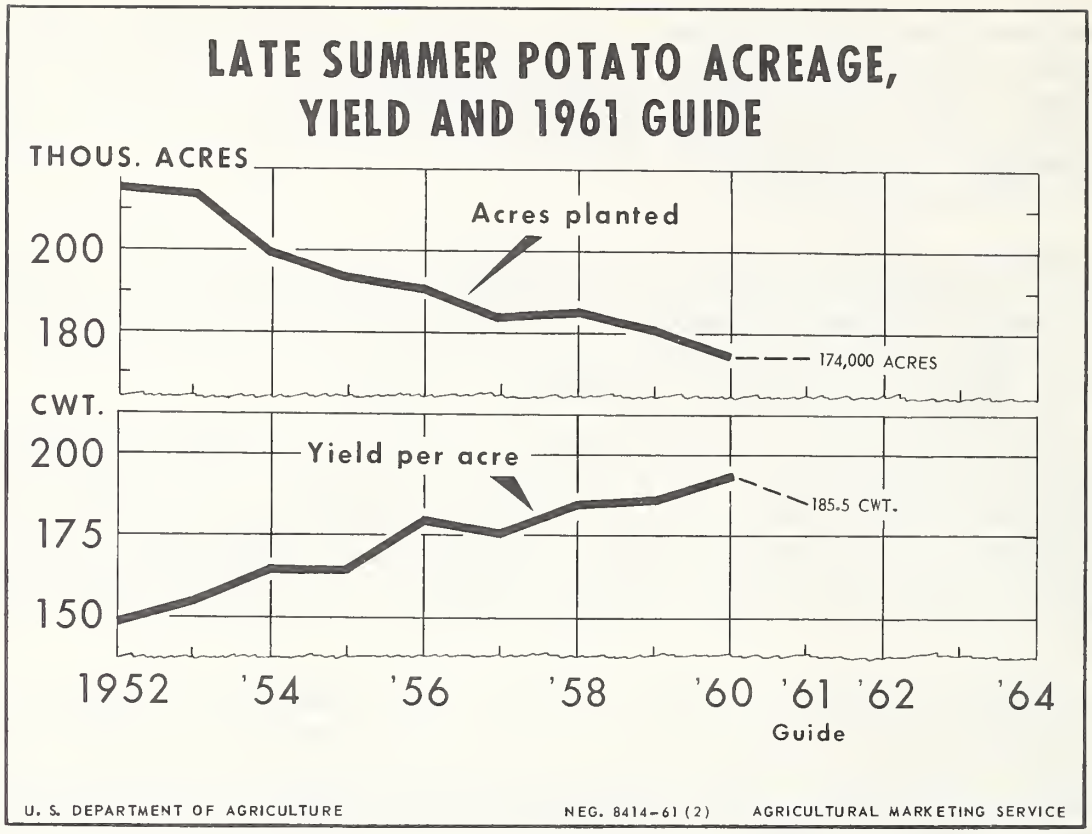
Prices received by eastern growers for 1960 early summer round white potatoes were substantially below 1959 levels. However, prices received for 1960 supplies of California long whites and for Texas round red varieties averaged materially above 1959 levels. Listed below are average prices received by farmers in selected states for 1959 and 1960 crops of early summer potatoes:

State	1959 $ per cwt.	1960 $ per cwt.
Virginia	3.11	1.76
Delaware	2.32	1.43
California	2.50	3.30
Texas	2.20	3.05
Missouri	3.00	3.16

The early summer acreage guide for 1961 is 110,200 acres, 2 percent less than the 1960 acreage. Such an acreage, with average yield by states, will result in a production of 13.4 million hundredweight. This would be 11 percent less than the 1960 production but one percent more than the 1955-59 average.

The early summer acreage guides for 1961 by states are recommendations for an acreage 6 percent less than in 1960 in the Eastern Shore of Virginia, 5 percent less in Texas, 2 percent less in Delaware and an acreage equal to 1960 in all other states.

Late Summer Crop: Most of the late summer crop is harvested from August 16 to September 30. The seasonal crop originates largely in Middle Atlantic, Midwestern, and Northwestern States. Round white varieties predominate in


LATE SUMMER POTATO ACREAGE, YIELD AND 1961 GUIDE
THOUS. ACRES
200
180
Acres planted
174,000 ACRES
CWT.
200
175
150
Yield per acre
185.5 CWT.
1952
'54
'56
'58
'60
'61
'62
'64
Guide
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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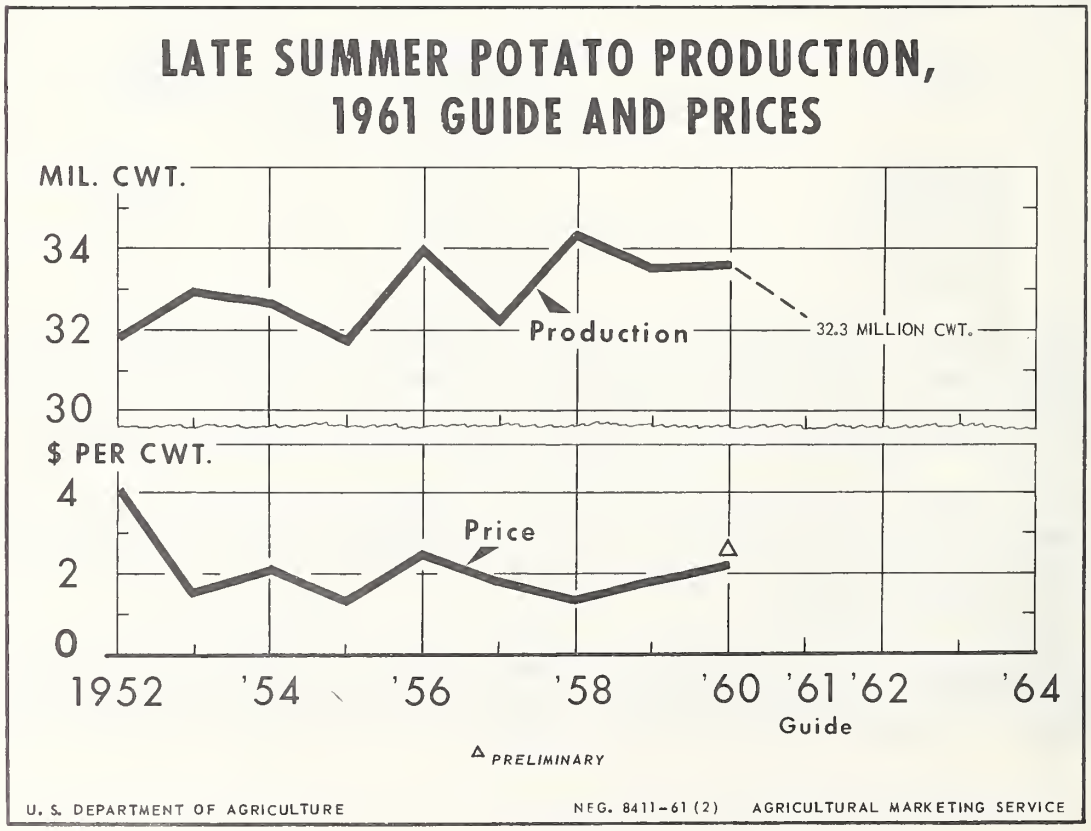
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


LATE SUMMER POTATO PRODUCTION, 1961 GUIDE AND PRICES
MIL. CWT.
34
32
30
Production
32.3 MILLION CWT.
$ PER CWT.
4
2
0
Price
1952
'54
'56
'58
'60
'61
'62
'64
Guide
△ PRELIMINARY
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8411-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

the East and Midwest. Both long and round varieties are grown in the West. Most of the crop is sold for table use but increasing amounts are being utilized for food processing; some quantities are diverted to starch and livestock feed outlets.

Annual variations in late summer production have been relatively small --- the result of offsetting trends in acreage planted and yields harvested. The 1960 production was virtually equal to that of a year earlier. Hot weather during July in all areas hastened maturity. The Wisconsin and Idaho crops were late as cold spring weather delayed plantings. Yields of early red and white varieties in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho were light.

Late summer production in 1960 in western areas was moderate. Demand for the limited supplies of western potatoes for fresh market and for processing was strong, and western prices averaged at the highest level since 1952. Late summer supplies in the mid-western states also were moderate because of the later-than-usual harvest in Wisconsin. Prices received for 1960 late summer crop potatoes by mid-western farmers averaged materially higher than a year earlier.

Late summer production in 1960 in eastern and New England areas was moderate. However, harvests and shipments in eastern areas bunched and prices were pressured downward. A record yield was harvested on Long Island. Growers in New Jersey and Long Island slowed marketings in the late summer because of market conditions. Both areas had a heavy carryover of supplies at the start of the fall harvest season. Harvest of the Delaware early summer crop also was slowed because of market conditions; shipments peaked about September 1.

Prices received by farmers in selected states during August and September, 1959 and 1960, are listed below:

Area	1959 August	1959 September	1960 August	1960 September
	$ per cwt.		$ per cwt.	
Long Island	1.70	1.60	1.30	1.50
New Jersey	1.90	1.60	1.60	1.65
Ohio	2.45	2.37	2.20	2.22
Wisconsin	2.35	2.00	2.70	2.40
Nebraska	1.60	1.13	1.90	1.68
Colorado	1.45	.95	2.60	2.55
Idaho	1.20	1.28	2.35	1.70
Oregon	1.20	1.75	2.30	2.03
Washington	1.25	1.30	2.10	1.85
California	2.45	2.50	3.60	3.95

The late summer acreage recommendation in 1961 is 174,100 acres, equal to the 1960 plantings. Acreage guides for all states are recommendations for an

acreage equal to that in 1960. Such an acreage, with average yields by states, will result in a production of 32.3 million hundredweight, 4 percent less than in 1960, and 3 percent less than the 1955-59 average.

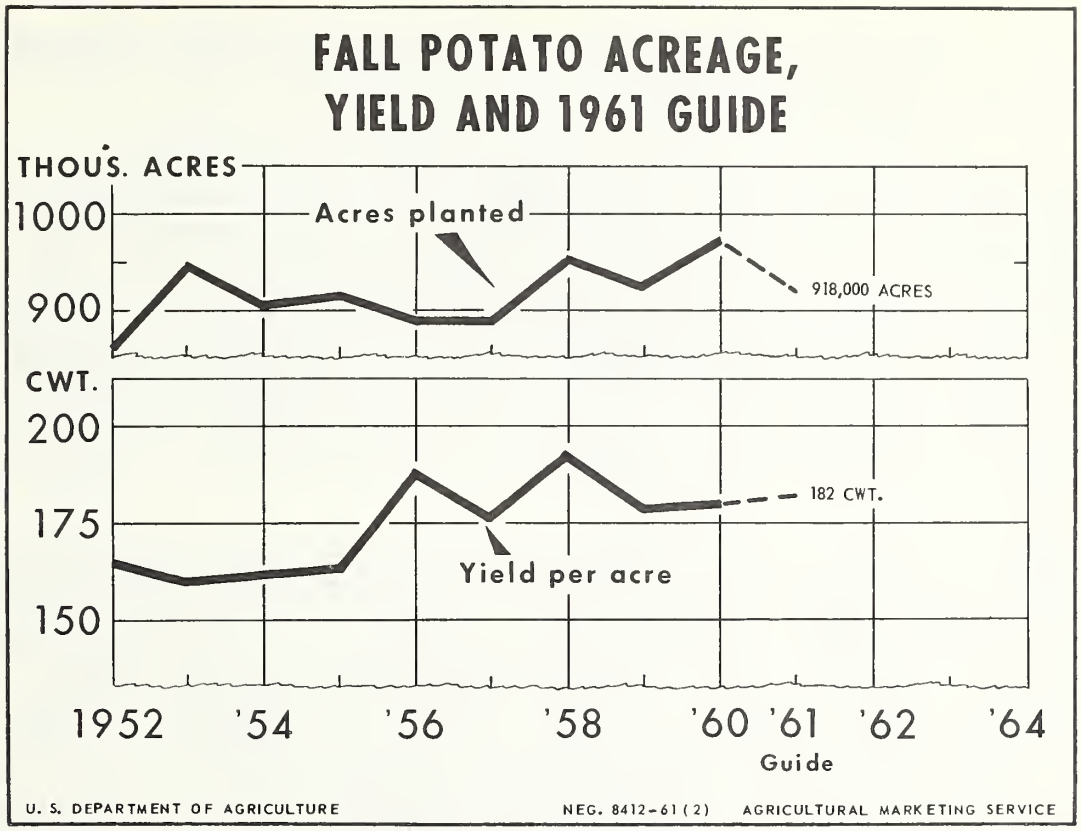
Fall Crop: About two-thirds of the U. S. annual potato crop originates in fall crop areas. Most of the supply is put into storage. The fall marketing season extends from about August 15 into late June of the following year. Idaho, Maine, New York, North Dakota, and Minnesota were the leading states in fall production in 1960. Round white varieties account for most of the production in the eastern states. Long varieties predominate in the western states. Round whites and reds are about of equivalent importance in the midwestern area. In Wisconsin, however, production of long or Russet type potatoes is increasing.

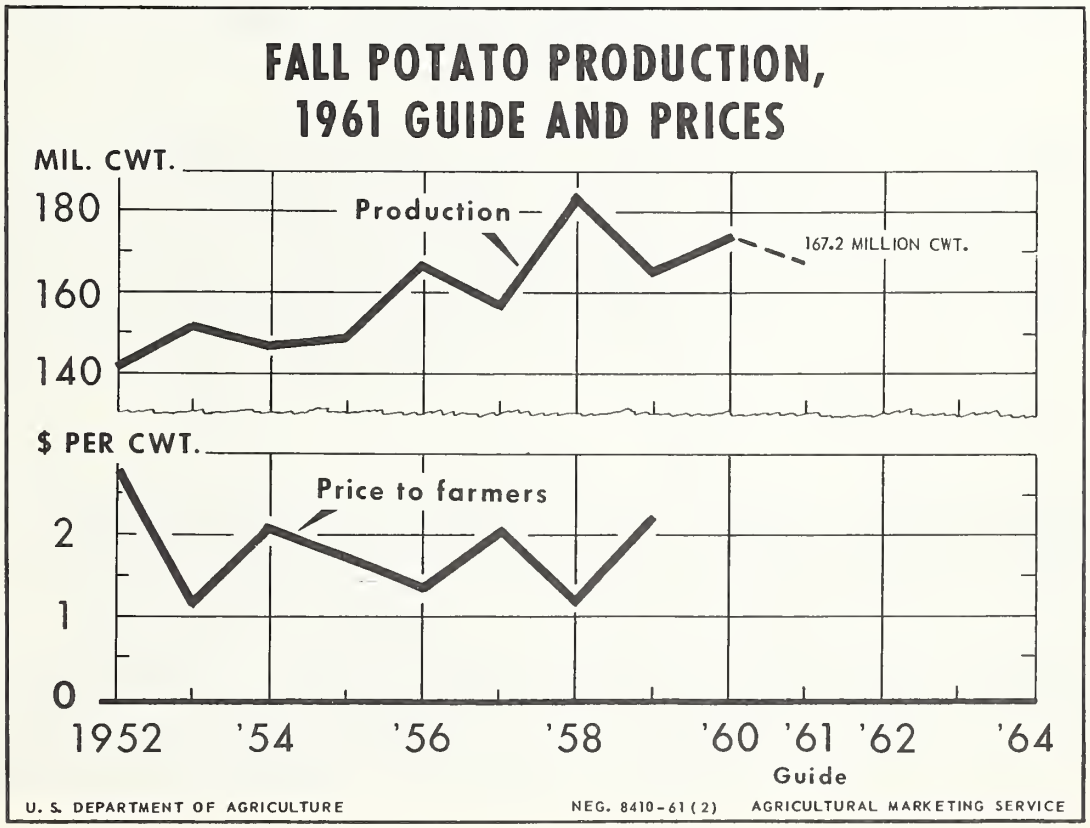
Prices received for fall potatoes as well as for the other seasonal crops are dependent upon numerous factors. These include general levels and geographic distribution of supplies, variations in size, quality and varietal components, impact of marketing order regulations, availability or potential availability of new crop (winter and spring) supplies, magnitude in overlaps of late summer supplies, and level of supplies in Canada. Commingling with the foregoing factors are rate of shipments into or through terminals, levels of imports and exports, opinions of buyers, changes in weather and in recent years, governmental diversion program. Because of a continuing strong demand for Russet Burbank potatoes for processing, Russet prices are averaging substantially higher than prices for round whites and round reds.

Fall plantings in 1960 totaled 968,600 acres, the largest acreage since 1950, and almost 5 percent more than in 1959. Approximately 36 percent of the fall acreage was planted in the western states, 35 percent in the central states, and 29 percent in the eastern states. The 1960 acreage in Idaho was 13 percent higher than in 1959. Acreage in Minnesota was up 10 percent, North Dakota 8 percent and Maine 4 percent. Acreage in Michigan was reduced 10 percent and in Oregon, 8 percent.

Weather conditions in the fall states varied widely. Average yield per acre for fall potatoes was slightly below that of 1959 and moderately below the record yield in 1958. In western New York, western Pennsylvania, and the Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota, dry weather reduced yields per acre. Growers on Long Island and in Ohio, Indiana, and Wisconsin harvested record high yielding crops. In Idaho, late freezes in late June, high temperatures in July, and several freezes in late August reduced yields. Freezes in the Tulelake area of California and the Klamath Falls area in Oregon in late August killed vines and stopped growth. In Maine, dry weather during August adversely affected the crop and low yields were harvested.

The 1960 fall production was 173.8 million hundredweight, 5.5 percent more than in 1959, and 8.5 percent more than the 1954-58 average. Aggregate production in the 8 eastern states was 5 percent higher than in 1959. Production in the 9 Central States was a record for recent years, and 14 percent


FALL POTATO ACREAGE,
YIELD AND 1961 GUIDE
THOUS. ACRES
1000
900
Acres planted
918,000 ACRES
CWT.
200
175
150
182 CWT.
Yield per acre
1952
'54
'56
'58
'60
'61
'62
'64
Guide
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8412-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


FALL POTATO PRODUCTION,
1961 GUIDE AND PRICES
MIL. CWT.
180
160
140
Production
167.2 MILLION CWT.
$ PER CWT.
2
1
0
Price to farmers
1952
'54
'56
'58
'60
'61
'62
'64
Guide
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8410-61 (2)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

above 1959. Production in the 9 western states was only slightly higher than in 1959. A moderately larger production in Idaho was offset by smaller crops in Washington, Oregon and California.

The 1960 supplies of fall crop round white potatoes originating in eastern production areas were slightly to moderately in excess of market needs. Long Island produced a record supply; growers delayed harvest because of poor demand and mild fall weather permitted gains in crop tonnage. New Jersey summer harvest also was delayed by poor demand; much of the crop was marketed in the fall and overlapped marketings of Long Island supplies. Because of the big supply in Middle-Atlantic areas, market needs for Maine potatoes declined; Maine marketings lagged in the fall and early winter. Disposition of Pennsylvania and Upstate New York supplies has been orderly. So far in the 1960-61 marketing season, low to moderate prices have been received for 1960 crop eastern round white potatoes.

Disposition of the large 1960 fall crop in the central states has been orderly. Demand for Wisconsin Russets has been strong and prices received have averaged at high levels. Although 1960 production in the Red River Valley was sharply above 1959, most of the gain in tonnage consisted of round white varieties for chipping. Round red supply approximated the 1959 level. Shrinkage is reported to be higher than a year ago. Shipments from the Valley into the late winter of 1960-61 were about 10 percent heavier than a year earlier. The 1960 production in Michigan was slightly below the 1959 level. Disappearance of Michigan 1960 supplies has been at a high rate and February 1961 stocks were a fifth below the February 1960 level. Prices received for 1960 crop midwestern round white and red potatoes have ranged from slightly to moderately below those received last season.

Although acreage in Idaho was stepped up sharply in 1960, relatively low yields were harvested in Idaho and most other western areas and offset the larger acreage. Western fall production in 1960 was in close balance with market needs. From the start of late summer into the late winter of 1960-61, there was a generally strong demand for western Russet potatoes for table and for processing uses. At the start of fall harvest there was a backlog of orders for western Russets. Light production of early red varieties in Washington, Oregon and Idaho strengthened demand for Colorado summer and fall red supplies. Average prices received by farmers in selected states for 1959 and 1960 fall crop potatoes are shown on page 19.

The 1961 fall potato acreage guide is 918,000 acres, 5 percent less than 968,600 acres planted in 1960. Such an acreage, with average yields by states, will result in a production of 167.2 million hundredweight. This would be 4 percent less than the 173.8 million hundredweight produced in 1960, but 2 percent more than the 1955-59 average of 164.1 million hundredweight.

The 1961 fall acreage guides by states are for an acreage 10 percent less than in 1960 in Minnesota, 9 percent less in Maine and North Dakota, 6 percent less in Idaho and California, 3 percent less in Wisconsin and Montana, 2 percent less in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Upstate New York, and an acreage equal

to 1960 in all other fall states.

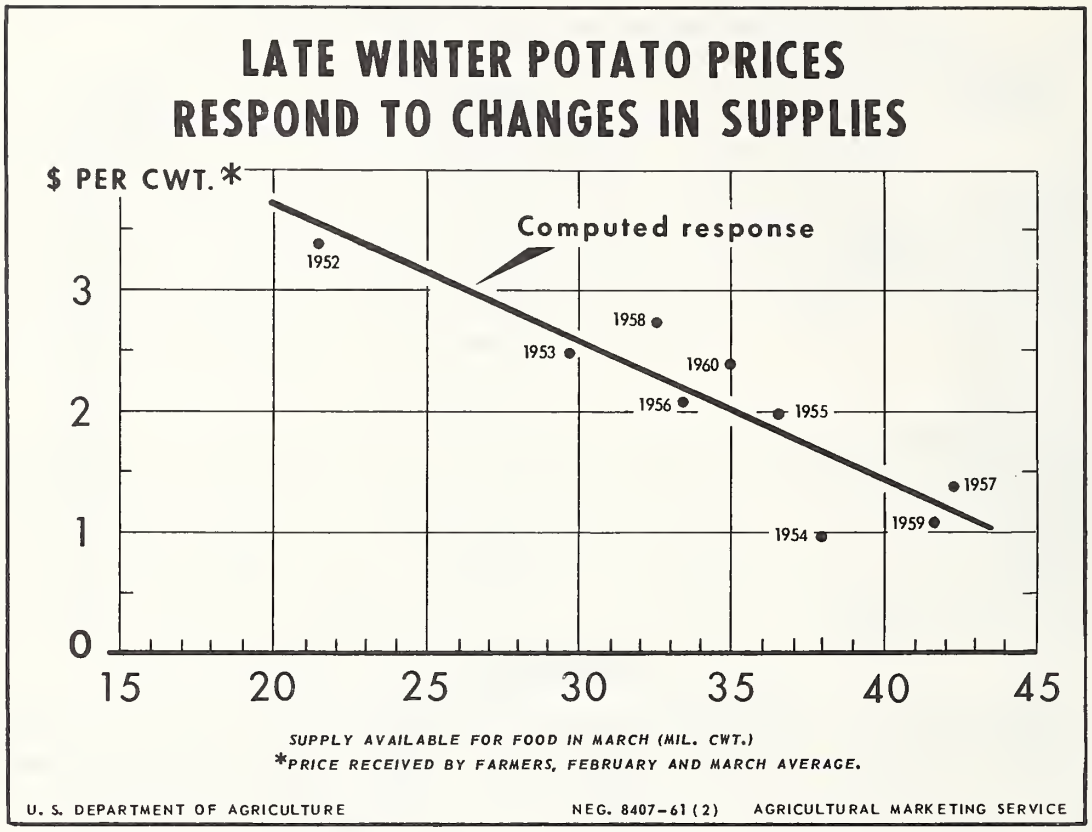
Fall Potatoes: Prices received by farmers,
October through January average, 1959-60 and 1960-61

State	1959-60	1960-61
	$ per cwt.	$ per cwt.
Maine	1.61	1.48
Long Island, New York	1.95	1.59
Upstate New York	2.36	2.32
Pennsylvania	2.61	2.35
Michigan	2.09	2.29
Wisconsin	2.05	2.34
Nebraska	1.39	1.38
Minnesota	1.42	1.29
North Dakota	1.46	1.35
Colorado	1.45	1.82
Idaho	1.84	1.90
Washington	1.75	1.69
Oregon	2.23	2.31
California (Fall)	2.58	2.91

1961 Outlook

Total storage stocks of potatoes held by growers and local dealers on February 1, 1961, were 81.6 million hundredweight. These stocks were 7 percent above the 76.4 million hundredweight held on February 1, 1960. Aggregate stocks in the 8 Eastern States on February 1, 1961, were 12 percent above the February 1, 1960 holdings; aggregate stocks in the 9 Central States were 8 percent higher and in the 8 Western States only one percent higher. Disappearance of the 1960 crop fall potatoes from time of harvest to February 1, 1961 was the second highest of record in the past 10 years, amounting to 92.7 million hundredweight. For the same period, the 1959 crop disappearance was 88.4 million hundredweight and in 1958, a record 99.1 million. A Section 32 surplus removal program was partly responsible for the record disappearance in 1958-59.

The 1961 winter production in Florida has been reduced by adverse weather. Marketings from Florida will continue light until the start of 1961 spring crop harvest. Winter production in California is materially above the 1960 level. Harvest will continue into early March. Growers of spring potatoes reported intentions to plant 181,400 acres in 1961, or about as much as they planted in 1960. In California, where high yields are obtained, 1961 plantings may be 60,000 acres compared with 53,700 in 1960. The 1961 intentions in Florida and North Carolina are for smaller acreages than in 1960, which would partly offset the expansion in California. Growers of early summer potatoes reported intentions to plant 110,800 acres in 1961, or one percent below the 1960 acreage.



The late winter supplies available for food as plotted in the chart above were based on March 1 potato stocks plus Florida winter production, less seed for summer and fall acreages, adjusted for growth in population. The computed response of price to supply is that for each one million hundredweight change in supply in the late winter, 1952 to 1960, prices changed eleven cents per hundredweight. A supply, for example, of 35 million hundredweight intersects the price scale at the $2.00 level and a supply of 40 million intersects at $1.45. The "standard error" is 38 cents per hundredweight.

VII. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE POTATO INDUSTRY

Potatoes are grown in every state but most of the production is concentrated in a few states. The combined production of Idaho, Maine, California, New York, North Dakota, Minnesota and Colorado, accounted for almost two-thirds of the 1960 production.

In the 1954 Census of Agriculture, potato production was reported on 1,432,466 farms. However, 5,510 farms, each growing 50 acres or more of potatoes, produced more than half of the 1954 crop. Between 1949 and 1954, the number of potato farms declined by 13 percent, but farms raising 50 or more acres of potatoes increased 8 percent. The 1954 census also showed that the higher potato yields are obtained on farms with large acreages of potatoes.

The crop marketing season for potatoes extends over a period of 20 months. The California 1961 winter crop started moving to market in November 1960. Marketing of the 1961 crop in Maine will begin in the fall of 1961 and normally may be expected to terminate in June 1962. Winter and spring crop marketings complement storage stock marketings in the late winter and spring. About 210 million hundredweight of food and seed potatoes move through the channels of distribution in a 12-month period. Chicago and New York City are the two most important terminal markets for potatoes. The two cities in turn serve secondary markets.

Domestic production consists of round white, round red, and long type varieties. The bulk of production consists of round type potatoes. Long type potato production predominates in the West, particularly in Idaho, Oregon, Washington and California. Round white and round red type potato production predominates in other areas.

Potato acreages during the past 5 years ranged from 1.4 to 1.5 million acres, about half as much as was planted in the 1930's. Idaho planted 16 percent of the 1960 acreage, Maine planted 10 percent, and North Dakota 8 percent.

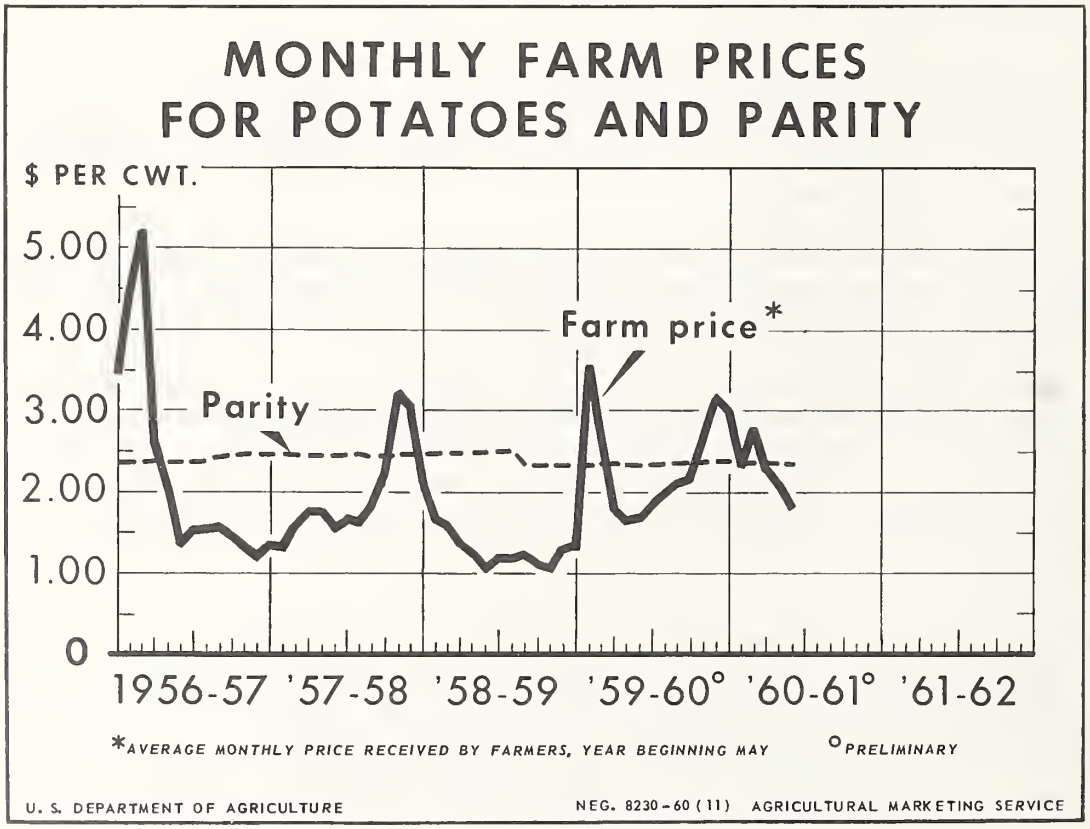
Potato yields per acre have shown a pronounced upward trend since World War II. Average yields per acre held below 100 hundredweight through 1945. Yields increased to 116 hundredweight in 1946, to 175 hundredweight by 1956 and to 181 hundredweight in 1958. Yields increased mainly as the result of declines in marginal acreages, increased use of commercial fertilizers and insecticides, the employment of more specialized machinery and equipment, and improvement in seed stock.

Potato production was maintained at fairly high levels during most of the 1950s. Upward trend in yields per acre tended to offset reductions in acreage. Potato surpluses have been the rule rather than the exception. In attempt to bring about more orderly markets for potatoes, growers made increasing use of marketing orders. Federal marketing orders on potatoes covered the 1960 crops grown in Maine, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Colorado and most of the

crop in Minnesota, North Dakota and northern California.

From 1951 through 1959, annual potato prices received by farmers ranged from $1.31 per hundredweight to $3.21; the nine-year average was $2.07. Potato growers tend to increase acreages following periods of favorable prices, and to reduce acreages following periods of relatively low prices. Relatively high average prices were received for the 1956 and 1957 crops of potatoes; in 1958, farmers increased acreage 5 percent. A relatively low average price of $1.31 per hundredweight was received by farmers in the 1958 marketing year. In 1959, potato acreage was reduced 6 percent. A high average price of $2.27 was received for 1959 crop potatoes. And in 1960, acreage was increased 3 percent. Monthly prices received for potatoes in the past several years are shown in the chart below. Prices tend to increase in the spring and early summer and to decline in the fall and early winter. Prices received for 1959 crop potatoes averaged slightly below parity.

The inverse relationship of potato production and price is shown by value of crop year sales. The 1958 production was 266 million hundredweight; value of sales totaled 301 million dollars. The 1959 production was 243 million hundredweight; value of sales totaled almost 480 million dollars. A change of five cents per hundredweight in the U. S. annual average price received by farmers results in a change of more than $10 million in the value of sales.



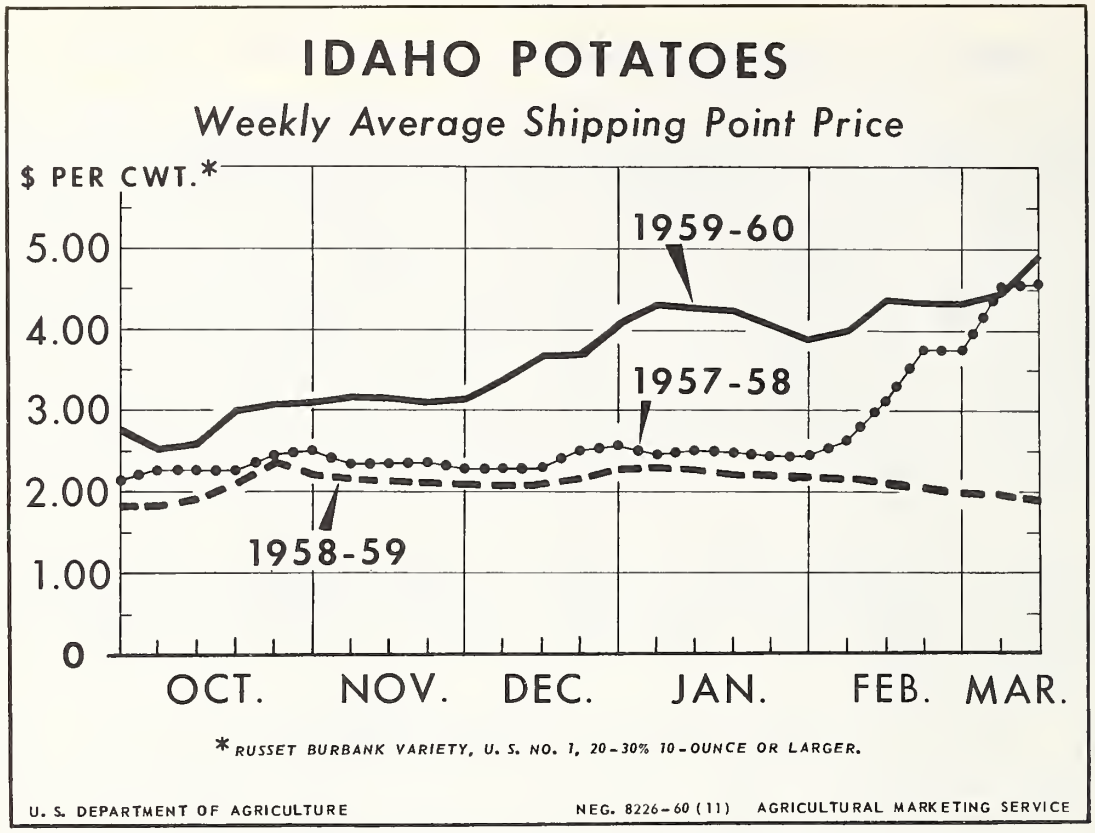
VIII. SUMMARY FOR MAJOR POTATO AREAS

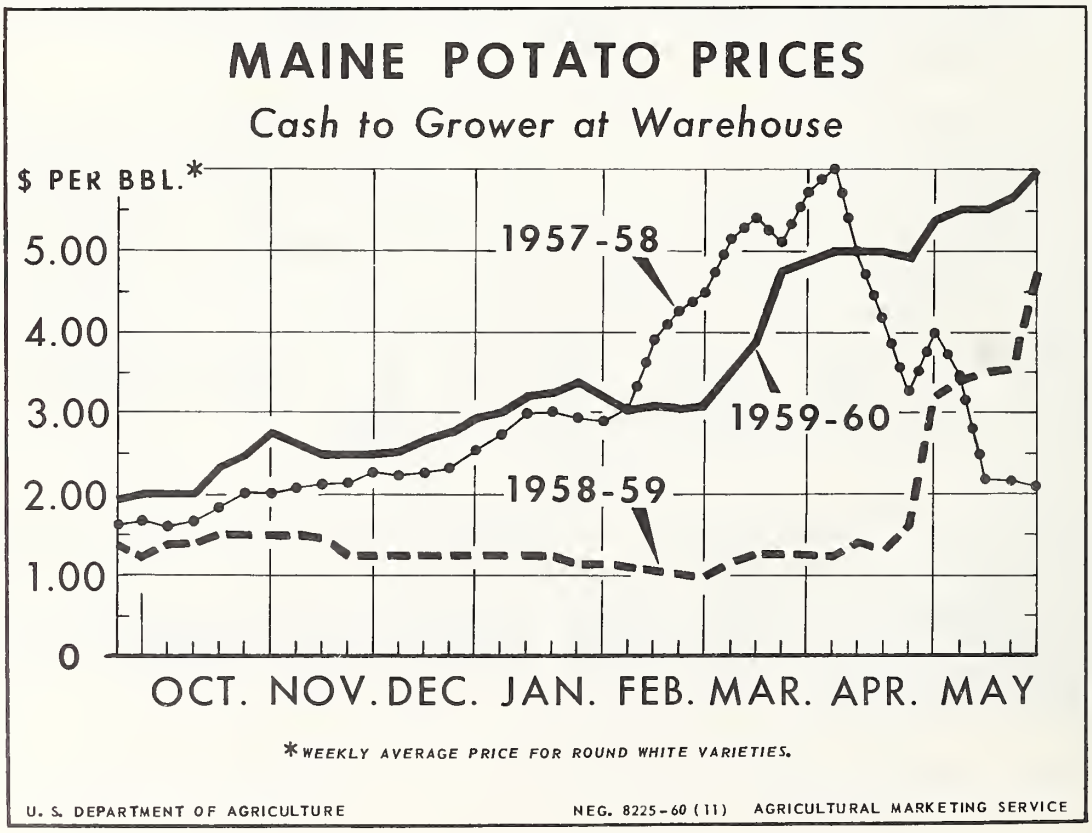
Maine, the Red River Valley of Minnesota and North Dakota, and Idaho dominate in potato production in the eastern, central, and western regions of the country, respectively. In 1960, approximately 55 percent of the 8 Eastern States' fall production originated in Maine, 58 percent of the 9 Central States' fall production originated in the Red River Valley, and 61 percent of the 9 Western States' fall production originated in Idaho. More than 90 percent of Maine's production consists of round white varieties, with the remainder mostly Russet type potatoes. In Idaho, more than 90 percent of the production consists of Russet Burbanks, with the remainder early varieties of red and white potatoes. The Red River Valley production consists of 70 percent round red varieties, with the remainder mostly round white varieties. The regional and varietal market tone for potatoes during the fall, winter, and early spring, is largely dependent upon levels of supplies in these three major potato areas. The fall potato acreage guides for 1961 for Maine, Minnesota, North Dakota, and Idaho are recommendations for smaller acreages compared with respective 1960 levels. However, the percentage of the 1961 regional acreage guide allocated to each of these states approximates the average percentage for the past several years.

Idaho: Idaho is the leading State in potato acreage and production. Idaho plantings in 1960 amounted to 237,500 acres, approximately 26,000 acres or 12 percent more than in 1959. Average yield per acre in 1960 was 181 hundredweight. This compared with 192 in 1959 and 210 in 1958. The 1960 production was 42.4 million hundredweight, 5 percent more than the 1959 total of 40.5 million hundredweight.

Idaho fresh potatoes usually are marketed throughout most of the year and are shipped into almost all U. S. cities and into Canada. Interstate potato shipments from Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, must comply with regulations issued under a Federal marketing order. Shipments of Idaho fresh potatoes in the current season total sharply below those recorded in the corresponding periods of 1959-60 and 1958-59. The decline in fresh shipments has been more than offset by sharp gains in Idaho potatoes processed for food. Potato food processing plants in Idaho utilized 22 percent of the 1958 crop and almost 31 percent of the Idaho 1959 crop. Processors may utilize approximately 40 percent of the 1960 crop. Sales of Idaho potatoes amounted to almost 37 million hundredweight in 1959 and 40 million in 1958.

At the latest count, 15 food plants were operating in Idaho, as well as one flour plant and 5 starch plants. The strong local demand for Idaho potatoes for processing both this marketing season and last season has limited the supply available to interstate markets and Russet prices are averaging well above historic levels. In the 1960-61 marketing season, shipping point prices for Russet Burbanks, U. S. No. 1 grade or better, have ranged from $3.25 to 4.00 per hundredweight.


IDAHO POTATOES
Weekly Average Shipping Point Price
$ PER CWT.*
5.00
4.00
3.00
2.00
1.00
0
1959-60
1957-58
1958-59
OCT.
NOV.
DEC.
JAN.
FEB.
MAR.
*RUSSET BURBANK VARIETY, U. S. NO. 1, 20-30% 10-OUNCE OR LARGER.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8226-60 (11)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


MAINE POTATO PRICES
Cash to Grower at Warehouse
$ PER BBL.*
5.00
4.00
3.00
2.00
1.00
0
1957-58
1959-60
1958-59
OCT.
NOV.
DEC.
JAN.
FEB.
MAR.
APR.
MAY
*WEEKLY AVERAGE PRICE FOR ROUND WHITE VARIETIES.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8225-60 (11)
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

The 1961 acreage guide for the Idaho late summer and fall potato crops combined is 223,150 acres, 6 percent less than the 237,500 acres planted in 1960. Such an acreage, with an average yield, will result in a 1961 production of 41.2 million hundredweight, which would be slightly more than the 1959 production but slightly less than the 1960 production.

Maine: Maine repeated as second ranking State in potato production in 1960, relinquishing its long-held lead position in 1958 to Idaho. The 1960 production in Maine was 34 million hundredweight, virtually equal to the 1959 total. Maine continues to dominate in certified seed production. In 1960, the State registered 16.3 million hundredweight of certified seed, which was almost half of the U. S. total.

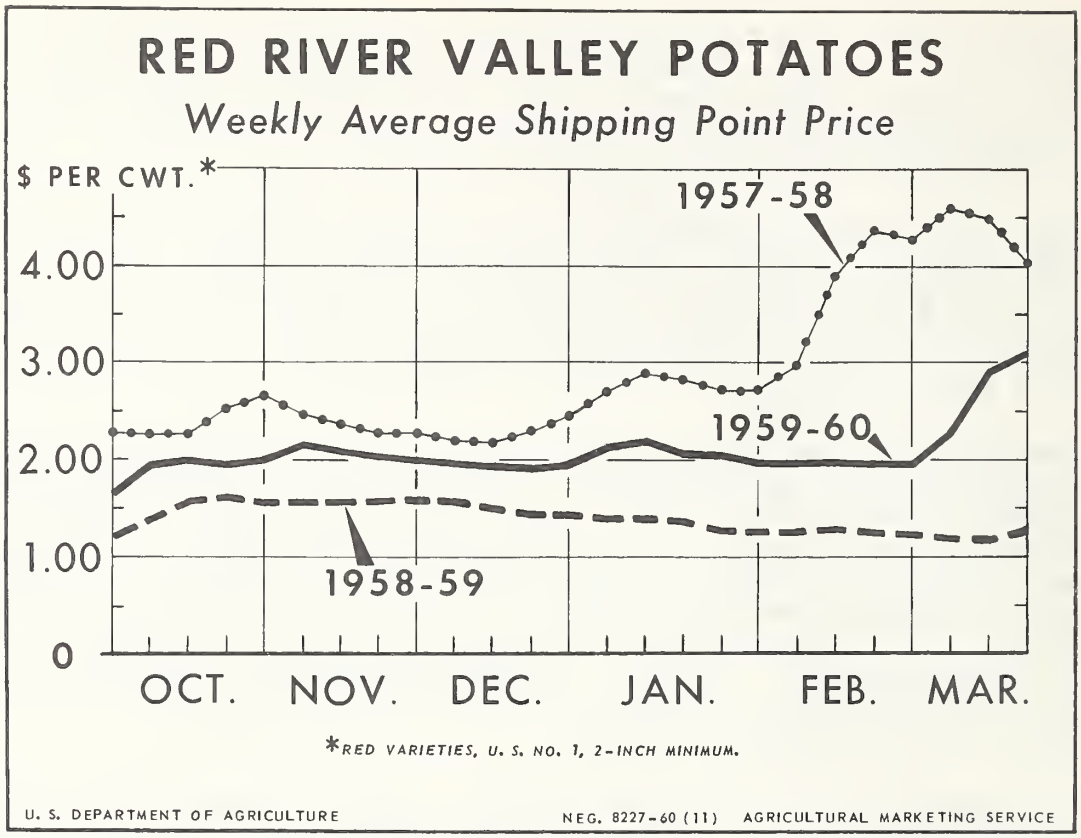
Potato shipments from Maine are regulated by a Federal marketing order. In the 1960-61 season, as in the past several years, regulations for round white shipments provide for U. S. No. 1 grade, 2-1/4 to 4 inches in diameter, generally fairly clean. Table stock packs are mostly in 50 and 10 pound units. Maine potatoes are shipped to markets throughout the eastern U. S. and into Canada. Certified seed sales account for about a seventh of Maine's crop year shipments. Approximately 7 percent of the 1959 crop was used by intrastate food processors. Movement to starch plants varies with the size of the crop. In the 1958 marketing year, 7.8 million hundredweights were diverted to starch and in 1959, 3.3 million.

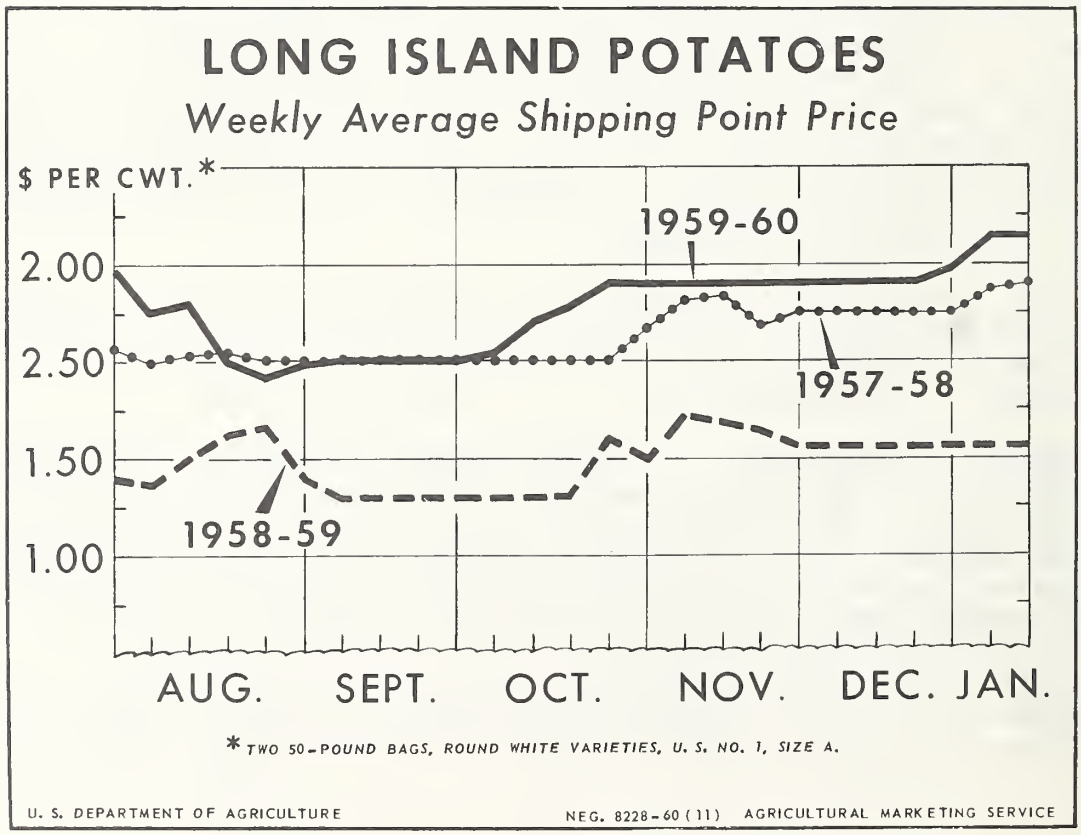
Disappearance of 1960 crop Maine potatoes in the fall and winter of 1960-61 has been at a low rate. Disappearance declined not only because fresh market sales have been lagging but also because of relatively low sales to starch plants. In 1960-61, shipping point prices for Maine Katahdins have ranged from $1.57 to $1.88 per hundredweight. A record production of potatoes in 1960 on Long Island resulted in a decrease in market needs for Maine potatoes. Potato marketings in Maine usually peak in March when shipments of seed add to shipments to food markets. Sales of Maine potatoes, including those for starch, in the 1959 marketing year totaled 30.3 million hundredweight and in 1958, 33.6 million hundredweight.

The 1961 acreage guide for Maine is 135,350 acres or 9 percent less than the 148,000 acres planted in 1960. Such an acreage, with average yield per acre, will result in a production of 34.6 million hundredweight, almost 2 percent more than the 1960 production.

Minnesota and North Dakota: In 1960 aggregate production, which is concentrated in the Red River Valley, amounted to 27.8 million hundredweight. This was the largest crop since 1922, and 15 percent more than the 24.1 million hundredweight produced in 1959. The gain in production in 1960 was due to sharp increases in acreage in both states. In 1960, Minnesota ranked second and North Dakota ranked third in certified seed production.

Red River Valley potato shipments are covered by a marketing order. Shipments from the Valley in the current season are about 10 percent higher than in the corresponding period of a year ago. In the 1959-60 season, Valley shipments


RED RIVER VALLEY POTATOES
Weekly Average Shipping Point Price
$ PER CWT.*
4.00
3.00
2.00
1.00
0
1957-58
1959-60
1958-59
OCT.
NOV.
DEC.
JAN.
FEB.
MAR.
*RED VARIETIES, U. S. NO. 1, 2-INCH MINIMUM.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8227-60 (11) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE


LONG ISLAND POTATOES
Weekly Average Shipping Point Price
$ PER CWT.*
2.00
2.50
1.50
1.00
1959-60
1957-58
1958-59
AUG.
SEPT.
OCT.
NOV.
DEC.
JAN.
* TWO 50-POUND BAGS, ROUND WHITE VARIETIES, U. S. NO. 1, SIZE A.
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. 8228-60 (11) AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

amounted to 36,300 carlot equivalents. Approximately 25,000 carlots moved from the Valley in the 1958-59 season. In both the 1958 and 1959 seasons, combined sales of Minnesota and North Dakota potatoes approximated 21 million hundredweight. Shipping point prices for Valley round red potatoes in the 1960-61 season have held relatively stable. Prices for washed round reds, U. S. No. 1 grade or better, have been mostly $1.70 to $2.00 per hundredweight.

The two states' potatoes are shipped to markets in the central third of the nation. Major outlets are Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and St. Louis. Seed sales account for a substantial portion of total shipments. At the latest count, 10 food processing plants and 3 starch plants were located in the Valley. The tonnage of Valley potatoes processed for food is expected to continue to trend upward.

The acreage guide for 1961 for Minnesota and North Dakota, combined, is 200,500 acres, 9 percent less than the 220,700 acres planted in 1960. Such an acreage with average yield by States, will result in a production of 25.2 million hundredweight or 2.6 million hundredweight less than the 1960 production, but almost one million hundredweight more than the 1959 production.

Long Island, New York: Harvest on Long Island is continuous from late summer into mid-fall. Most of the production consists of round white varieties. The supplies move to markets in the eastern third of the Nation, including Boston, Birmingham, Atlanta, Cincinnati and Cleveland. The major outlet is New York City. Permanent storage facilities on the Island have been increased. As a result, more of the supply is being held for marketing in the winter.

Long Island growers reduced acreage slightly in 1960. But a record high yield per acre was obtained and a near record production of 12.2 million hundredweight was harvested. This was 22 percent more than the 1959 production of almost 10 million hundredweight. Shipments of Long Island potatoes in the 1960-61 season are about 13 percent above the total in the corresponding period of a year earlier. In the 1959-60 marketing season, potato shipments from Long Island amounted to almost 23,000 carlot equivalents and in 1958-59, approximately 27,600 carlot equivalents. More than 95 percent of the Long Island production is sold off-farm.

Prices received for 1960 crop Long Island potatoes are averaging moderately below those received for 1959 supplies. So far in the 1960-61 season, shipping point prices for Long Island round white potatoes have ranged from $1.65 to $2.16 per hundredweight.

The acreage guide for 1961 for Long Island is 45,000 acres or equal to the 1960 plantings. Such an acreage, with average yields, will result in a production of 10.9 million hundredweight, or 1.2 million hundredweight less than the 1960 production, but almost one million hundredweight more than the 1959 production.

Colorado: Potato production in Colorado in 1960 amounted to 11.9 million hundredweight, slightly more than the 1959 crop but 12 percent less than the record crop of 1958. Late summer production in 1960 was almost a fifth below the 1959 level, but production for fall harvest was moderately above the level of a year earlier.

Market demand for Colorado potatoes has been good in the 1960-61 marketing season. During the late summer of 1960, supplies of early potatoes in the West were at moderate levels. This resulted in an increase in demand for Colorado potatoes originating in the Greeley district. Prices received for Colorado 1960 crop late summer potatoes were the highest since 1952. Prices received for San Luis Valley Russets during the fall and winter months have averaged at high levels and materially above the prices received for Colorado round reds.

Colorado potato shipments are regulated under a Federal marketing order. Major outlets for Colorado potatoes include Denver, Dallas, Kansas City, New Orleans, Ft. Worth, Chicago and Memphis. Combined rail and truck shipments of 1958 crop Colorado potatoes totaled almost 22,000 carlot equivalents; shipments of 1959 crop potatoes approximated 23,000 carlot equivalents. The 1960-61 shipments into late winter are about equal to those in the corresponding period of 1959-60.

The acreage guide for Colorado in 1961 is 57,300 acres, equal to the plantings in 1960. Such an acreage, with average yield, will result in a production of 11.9 million hundredweight, virtually equal to the production in 1960.

Wisconsin: The 1960 plantings amounted to 53,000 acres, 5,000 acres more than in 1959. The 1960 yield per acre was a record 172 hundredweight. Production in 1960 amounted to almost 9 million hundredweight, the largest crop since 1943, and 36 percent more than the 1959 crop of 6.6 million hundredweight. In 1960, about 13,000 acres of Russets were planted in Wisconsin. Russet yields were high and quality was above average. Market reception for Wisconsin Russets has been favorable and prices received have averaged at high levels.

The bulk of Wisconsin production consists of round white and red varieties which compete for market outlets with Red River Valley and Michigan supplies. Indianapolis, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Louis are the major outlets for Wisconsin potatoes. Significant quantities also are sold in southern cities including New Orleans, Birmingham and Atlanta. Part of these sales represent certified seed. Sales of Wisconsin potatoes in the past several years ranged from 4.6 to 5.5 million hundredweight. An additional half million hundredweight is used for food on farms where grown.

The acreage guide in 1961 for Wisconsin summer and fall potatoes totals 51,900 acres, 2 percent less than 53,000 acres planted in 1960. Such an acreage, with average yield, will result in a production of 7.5 million hundredweight, or 1.5 million less than the 1960 production but one million more than the 1959 production.

Washington: Acreages of summer and fall potatoes in Washington were reduced moderately in 1960. Production totaled 9.1 million hundredweight, about a tenth less than the 9.9 million hundredweight crop of 1959. Acreage in Washington is concentrated in the southeastern area of the State. Most of the production consists of the Russet Burbank variety; relatively small quantities of early red and white varieties are produced for late summer marketing.

The 1960-61 marketing season for Washington potatoes was orderly and prices received by farmers were the highest since 1952. Prices for 1960 marketings are expected to approximate $2.00 per hundredweight, or fifty cents more than for 1959 sales. Although shipments to fresh market into mid-February 1961 were almost an eighth less than in the like period of 1959-60, sales of 1960 supplies to Washington food processors were more than double the sales of 1959, and more than offset the drop in fresh shipments. Processors used 4,160 carlot equivalents by mid-February 1961 compared to 1,850 in the like period of 1959-60. The tonnage of Washington potatoes processed for food is likely to continue to trend upward. Five potato food processing plants are now in Washington.

The acreage guide in 1961 for Washington summer and fall potatoes amounts to 37,000 acres, equal to the 1960 plantings. Such an acreage with average yield will result in a production of 9.1 million hundredweight, or virtually equal to the 1960 production.

Oregon-Northern California: Potato marketings in Modoc and Siskiyou Counties in California and in all of Oregon except Malheur County are regulated under Federal Marketing Order No. 59. Malheur County marketings are regulated under Idaho-Oregon Marketing Order No. 57. Approximately 70 percent of the California fall potato crop is produced in Modoc and Siskiyou Counties. Fall potato production in Oregon in 1960 was 4.8 million hundredweight, about one million hundredweight less than in 1960. Fall production in California also was down one million hundredweight; 4.2 million hundredweights were harvested. The smaller production in 1960 in both States was due to moderate reductions in acreage and sharply lower yields as compared with a year earlier.

Marketings of 1960 Oregon-California supplies commenced in late July 1960. Similar to the past several seasons, shipments during the fall and winter of 1960-61 were maintained at a relatively constant rate. Prices received by farmers for 1960 supplies have averaged materially above those recieved a year earlier. Because of a smaller supply, cumulative disposition in 1960-61 is moderately below that in 1959-60. The Oregon-California Potato Committee reported that as of mid-February 1961, disposition of 1960 supplies totaled 9,930 carlots. This compared to 11,531 carlots through mid-February 1960. In the 1959-60 marketing year, the Oregon-Northern California disposition in all outlets was 17,600 carlots, and in 1958-59, 20,100 carlots.

The 1961 guide for fall acreage in Oregon is 22,000 acres or equal to the acreage planted in 1960. Such an acreage with average yield will result in a fall production in Oregon of 5.3 million hundredweight. This would be

approximately 440,000 hundredweight more than the 1960 production, but 600,000 less than the 1959 production. The 1961 guide for fall acreage in California is 17,100 acres, 6 percent less than the 1960 plantings. Such an acreage with average yield will result in a fall production in California of 4.6 million hundredweight. This would be almost 400,000 hundredweight more than the 1960 production but 300,000 hundredweight less than in 1959. The recommendations for late summer acreages in 1961 in Oregon and California are that each State plant an acreage equal to that in 1960.

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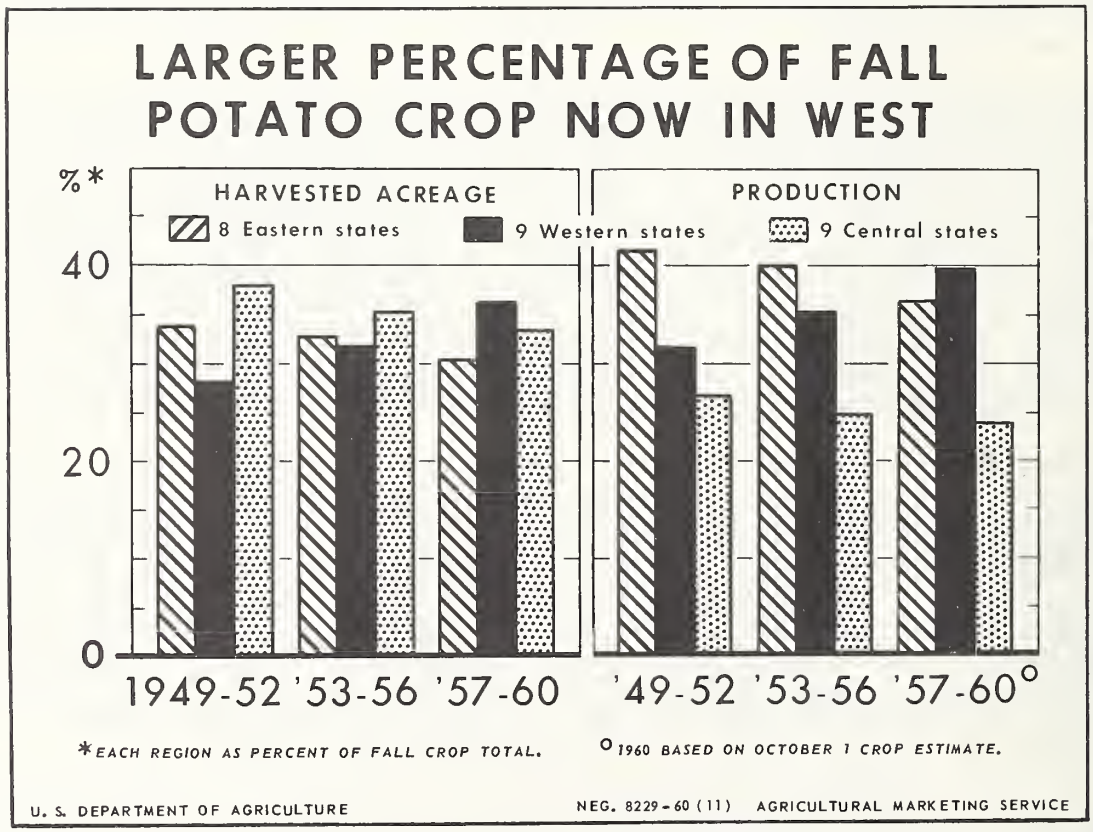
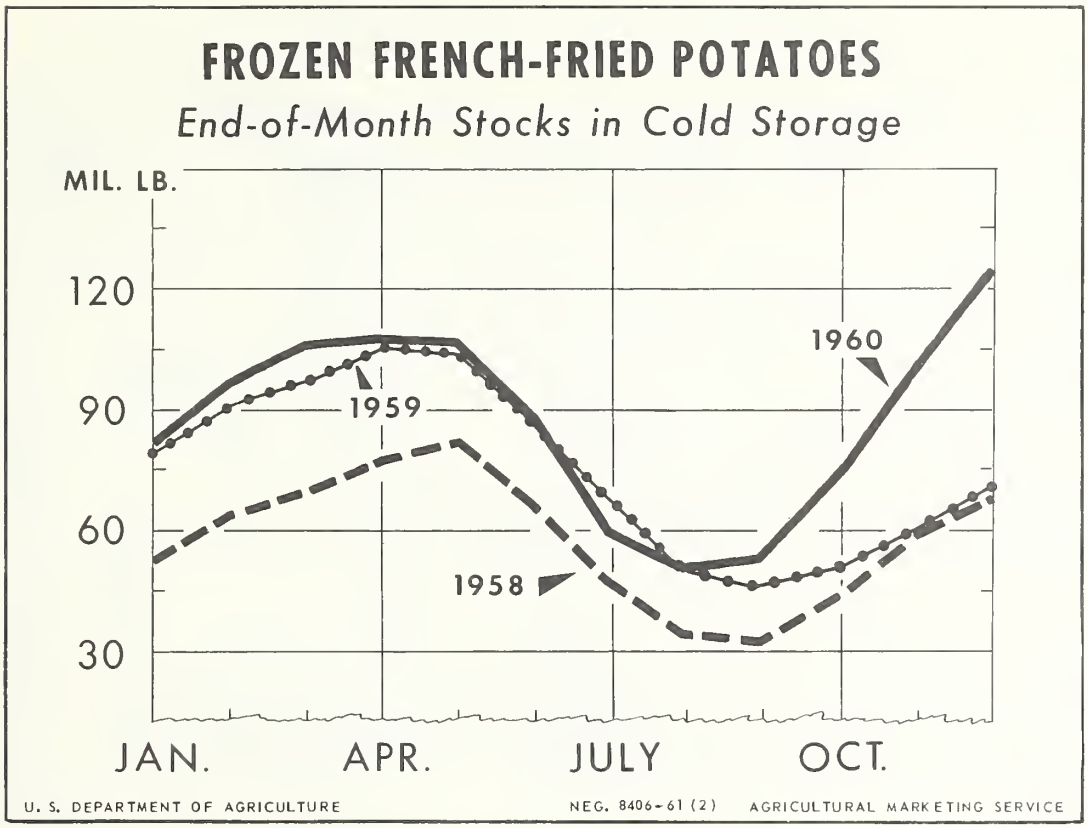
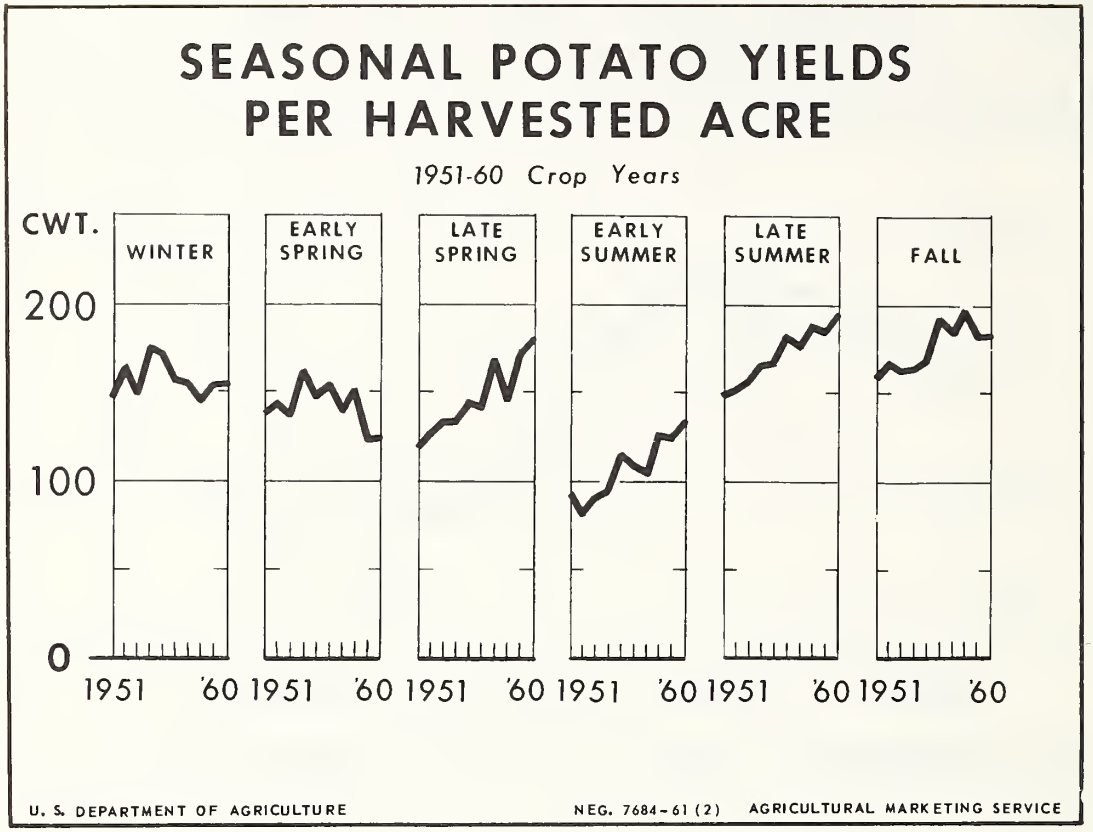




Data on the 1960 pack of frozen potato products is not yet available. However, the pack is expected to total materially higher than in 1959. The 1959 pack of frozen products totaled slightly more than 371 million pounds, according to the National Association of Frozen Food Packers. The 1958 pack was 269.5 million pounds. And the 1957 pack was almost 220 million pounds. French fried potatoes accounted for 87 percent of the 1959 pack with the remainder puffs, shredded, whipped and diced products. On January 31, 1961, frozen French fried stocks amounted to 139.2 million pounds, approximately 58 million pounds and 71 percent more than on January 31, 1960.



The U. S. average potato yield in 1960 was 177.9 hundredweight, 3.2 hundredweight below the record yield of 1958, but 2.7 above the 1959 crop. Cold and wet weather in 1960 in Florida interfered with yields on winter and early spring acreages. Late spring and summer yields climbed to record levels. The fall crop yield in 1960 was virtually equal to that in 1959. Record yields were harvested in Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana and Long Island. But relatively low yields were harvested in Maine, Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California.

In the past decade, potato growers showed an increasing efficiency in production. In the 1960's, growers can be expected to intensify their efforts to boost yield per acre. Growers will use more and better machines, and make heavier applications and more widespread use of fertilizers. More general use of pesticides and insecticides will cut production losses.

Summer and Fall Potatoes and Summary
Probable Production From 1961 Acreage Guides

Season and State	Probable production in 1961 1/	Season and State	Probable production in 1961 1/
	1,000 cwt.		1,000 cwt.
Early Summer:		Fall:	
Missouri	568	Maine	34,645
Kansas	202	New Hampshire	332
Delaware	2,144	Vermont	319
Maryland	325	Massachusetts	849
Virginia:		Rhode Island	742
Eastern Shore	2,764	Connecticut	1,361
Norfolk	142	New York, L. I.	8,150
Other	422	New York, Upstate	6,432
Total Virginia	3,328	Pennsylvania	7,319
North Carolina	714	8 Eastern-Fall	60,149
Georgia	100		
Kentucky	865	Ohio	2,201
Tennessee	768	Indiana	1,019
Texas	1,706	Michigan	6,460
California	2,717	Wisconsin	4,722
Total	13,437	Minnesota	11,124
		Iowa	473
Late Summer:		North Dakota	13,299
Massachusetts	361	South Dakota	608
Rhode Island	230	Nebraska	1,958
New York, L. I.	2,784	9 Central-Fall	41,864
New Jersey	3,672		
Pennsylvania	664	Montana	1,330
Ohio	992	Idaho	38,917
Indiana	496	Wyoming	667
Illinois	146	Colorado	9,332
Michigan	888	Utah	1,422
Wisconsin	2,760	Nevada	219
Minnesota	733	Washington	3,450
Nebraska	531	Oregon	5,280
Maryland	172	California	4,580
Virginia	328	9 Western-Fall	65,197
West Virginia	792		
North Carolina	352	Total Fall	167,210
Idaho	2,258	Total Winter	3,364
Colorado	2,604	Total Spring	28,694
New Mexico	420	Total Summer	45,732
Washington	5,654	Total Fall	167,210
Oregon	2,873	U. S.	245,000
California	2,585		
Total L. Summer	32,295		

1/ Computed: Acreage guide for 1961 times average yield per acre.

Potatoes

1961 Acreage Guides and 1960 Acreages

State	Acreage planted 1960	1961 acreage guide	1961 guide percentage change from 1960	State	Acreage planted 1960	1961 acreage guide	1961 guide percentage change from 1960
	Acres	Acres	Percent		Acres	Acres	Percent
Alabama	24,500	23,500	- 4	Nebraska	17,500	17,500	0
Arizona	9,800	8,350	-15	Nevada	1,000	1,000	0
Arkansas	6,700	6,800	+ 1	New Hampshire	1,900	1,900	0
California	101,800	96,400	- 5	New Jersey	17,000	17,000	0
Colorado	57,300	57,300	0	New Mexico	2,500	2,500	0
Connecticut	7,000	6,850	- 2	New York	81,000	80,350	-1
Delaware	11,000	10,750	- 2	North Carolina	32,000	32,400	+1
Florida	37,600	37,450	- 1	North Dakota	113,000	103,100	-9
Georgia	3,900	4,100	+ 5	Ohio	19,900	19,900	0
Idaho	237,500	223,150	- 6	Oklahoma	4,700	4,300	-9
Illinois	1,800	1,800	0	Oregon	35,000	35,000	0
Indiana	8,300	8,300	0	Pennsylvania	49,000	49,000	0
Iowa	5,500	5,500	0	Rhode Island	4,600	4,600	0
Kansas	2,400	2,400	0	South Carolina	7,000	7,000	0
Kentucky	13,200	13,300	+ 1	South Dakota	7,600	7,600	0
Louisiana	7,000	7,200	+ 3	Tennessee	12,000	12,000	0
Maine	148,000	135,350	- 9	Texas	21,200	19,600	-8
Maryland	5,100	4,700	- 8	Utah	9,000	9,000	0
Massachusetts	7,200	7,100	- 1	Vermont	1,900	1,900	0
Michigan	49,600	49,600	0	Virginia	35,800	33,900	-5
Minnesota	107,700	97,400	-10	Washington	37,000	37,000	0
Mississippi	7,500	8,000	+ 7	West Virginia	11,000	11,000	0
Missouri	8,000	8,000	0	Wisconsin	53,000	51,900	-2
Montana	9,400	9,100	- 3	Wyoming	4,600	4,600	0
				United States	1,457,000	1,396,450	-4.2